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May 2022 | Vol. 26 • Issue 2

Digital Edition



Pantheon runs with two, 20-passenger trains and features continuous action. It is billed as the world's fastest multi-launch coaster, with three forward and one backward launch. COURTESY JILL RYAN

## Intamin's Pantheon brings more speed, thrills to Busch Gardens Williamsburg

AT: B. Derek Shaw  
bdshaw@amusementtoday.com

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. — The five Roman gods, Pluto, Neptune, Mercury, Minerva and Jupiter are all in agreement. Pantheon delivers strength, speed and power. In late March, guests at **Busch Gardens Williamsburg** got to experience those adrenalin-pumping attributes first-hand.

Billed as the world's fastest multi-launch coaster, Pantheon is situated in a previously undeveloped plot of land in the Festa Italia section of the park, close to nearby Apollo's Chariot and Tempesto roller coasters. The five gods are part of the theming of the attraction, with a different section of the track reflecting each of their respective powers.

Originally slated to premiere in 2020, the **Intamin**

**Worldwide** roller coaster suffered a two-year pandemic-driven delay. Pantheon, the eighth in Busch Gardens arsenal of roller coasters, is a record breaker on numerous fronts. The 73 mph, 180-foot tall, 3,328-foot-long ride has a 95-degree drop, four launches, with five air-time hills, two inversions and a 90-degree, 180-foot spire, all in 1 minute and 52 seconds.

Three of the launches are in the forward direction, while one sends the train backward. There are 15 airtime moments, with elements such as a zero-G stall and roll, top hat, bunny hill, trick track into another launch, a planned roll back, speed turn and an overbanked turn. It should be noted that the total ride length is 4,226 feet, which includes a roll back into the

spike and then in the forward direction the rest of the ride. There is a 52" minimum height requirement.

**Elizabeth Ringas**, communications director of the **American Coaster Enthusiasts** described her initial reactions to the latest park attraction: "A tumultuous ride. It's unpredictable. You don't know if you're going forwards or backwards, you're going fast, you're going slow. That makes it interesting."

The initial planning process was a collaboration between the park and headquarters as Park President **Kevin Lembke** explained: "We work very closely with our corporate rides team in Orlando. Certainly, they're the experts on the design and engineering side, in

► See PANTHEON, page 6

## S&S supplies world's largest Screaming Swing to SeaWorld San Antonio

AT: Tim Baldwin  
tbaldwin@amusementtoday.com

SAN ANTONIO — "Everything is bigger in Texas" is, unfortunately, an over-used phrase that somewhat diminishes its charm with its repetition. But doggone it — when it fits, it fits. **SeaWorld San Antonio** made sure of it.

Construction had started on Tidal Surge before the pandemic shocked the world in the spring of 2020. SeaWorld San Antonio's new Texas Stingray wooden coaster had opened just under the wire. But savvy guests were noting activity behind walls near the edge of the park's central lake. Erection of the ride was so apparent last summer that the park couldn't conceal it anymore. The announcement of Tidal Surge — the tallest and largest ride of its kind — had guests excited.

As March began, the enormous sea life park readied its newest offering for the upcoming spring break crowds. Built by S&S Worldwide, the new attraction is a Screaming Swing that takes full advantage of the setting.

"As you are riding this ride, it takes you out over the water, and as you're coming back down, it's almost as if you are going in the water," said Park President **Byron Surrentt**. "It's very much a thrill ride, and that's why we put it there. That was the key thought — to create that excitement."

A Screaming Swing uses air power to launch two pendulums back and forth before they swing beyond the actual height of the structure.

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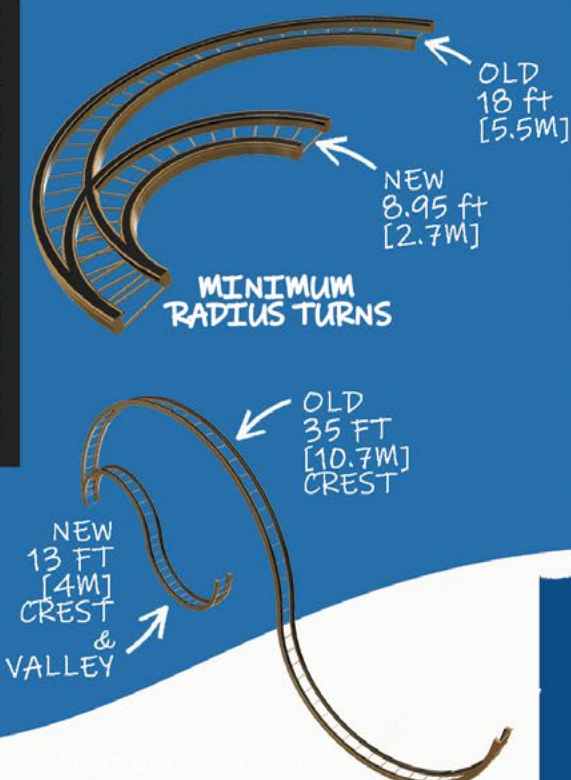
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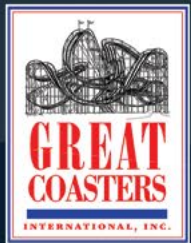
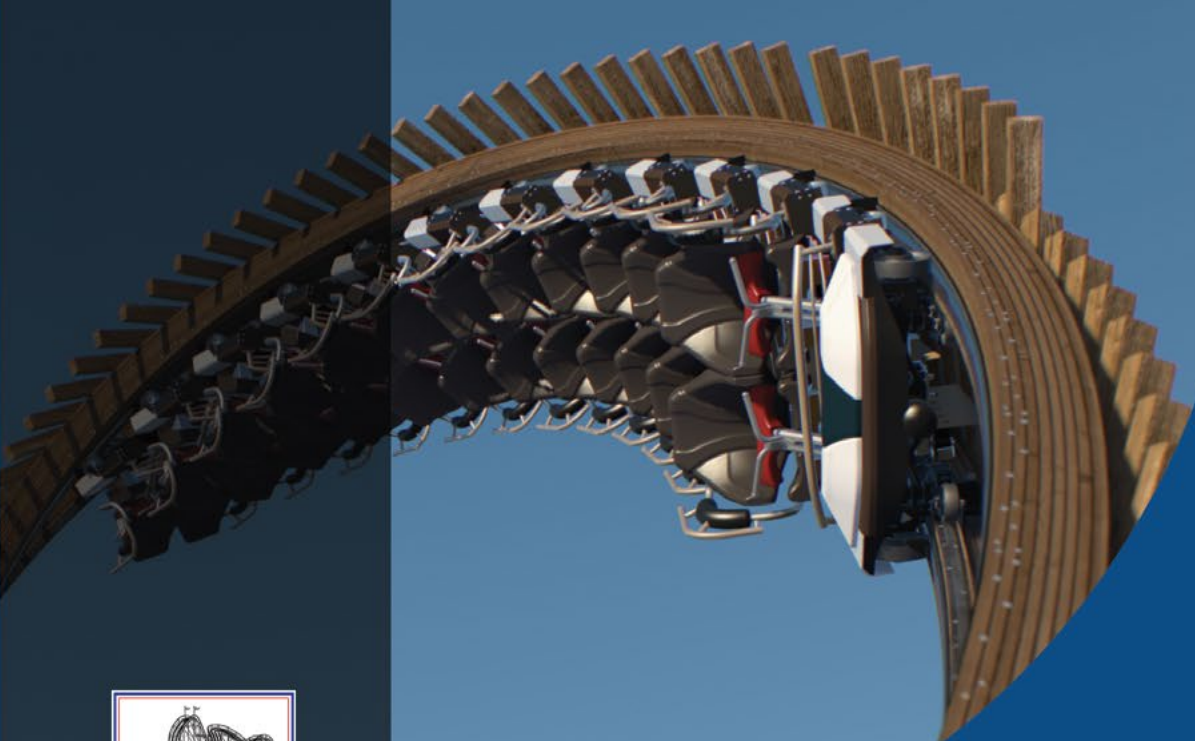
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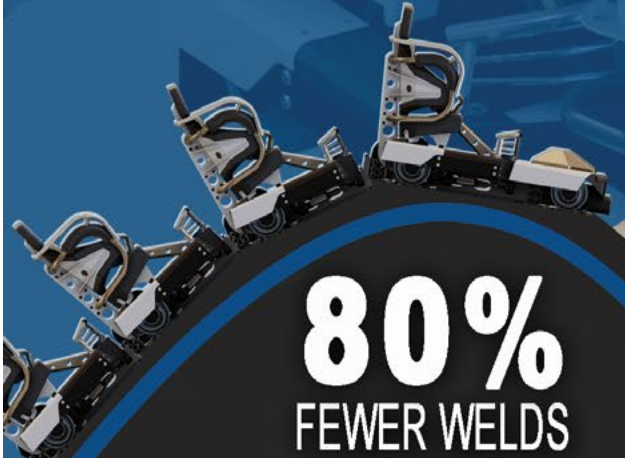
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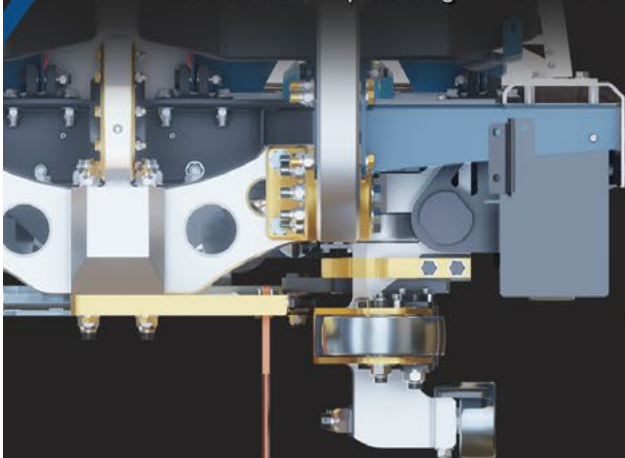
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# AMUSEMENT VIEWS

**AT NOTEBOOK:** John W.C. Robinson, jrobinson@amusementtoday.com

## Spring is here, the sun is out



Robinson

This past month, the sun was out more and opportunity knocked, so I was traveling a fair amount. Between a couple road trips on my Harley, flying out to Las Vegas for the Amusement Expo 2022 and just general observations, I've been able to confirm one thing for certain: travel — and

tourism — are definitely back!

Driving friends and family to the airport, I observed lines of spring break vacationers literally pouring out the doors of the baggage drop and check-in area. At an airport where check-in is normally a walkup experience (even prior to COVID-19), that's a clear indicator that people are ready to travel and get away for fun.

I took a ride to Myrtle Beach and visited Funplex there. No matter the evening hour, roads were backed up with travelers to the area eager to reach their destination. And, at the park itself, no ride sat stagnant for much longer than it would take to load up the next cycle of riders.

On a random Tuesday evening, hotels in the middle of the Appalachian Mountains in the Carolinas were booked solid from travelers.

Even with gas topping \$4/gallon (and nearing \$5/gallon in some areas), interstates were filled with travelers displaying license plates from across the continental U.S. and multiple king-sized RVs carried families to their latest vacation destinations.

When chillier weather hit randomly, it deterred no one. Despite clouds and a chilly breeze, Kings Island's opening weekend saw a parking lot with a constant influx of cars and its front gates saw guests eager to return to the thrilling attractions within.

After years under the fears of the pandemic and all that came with it, people clearly are ready to get out of the house — and get out of their local area — and enjoy the world around them, our industry's attractions and travel once again. Tourism is back and, even with obstacles still ahead, it does not look to be slowing down any time soon.

**FLINT'S VIEW:** Bubba Flint



**INDUSTRY VOICE:** B. Derek Shaw, bdshaw@amusementtoday.com

## Small venues get lost in the shuffle

Years ago, fairs, large festivals and events around the country had a plethora of amusement ride companies to choose from to provide their carnival midway. In fact, these organizations were in the driver's seat when it came to selection of a ride provider. However, these days things are different.

The Outdoor Amusement Business Association (OABA) had 165 member carnivals in 1994. In pre-pandemic 2019, that number was reduced to 115 carnival members.

The whole playing field has changed. Many carnival companies have simply gone out of business, due to the economic climate, insurance costs, staffing issues, the effects of COVID-19 or the next generation not ready or willing to take the reins. On top of that, some operations have merged with another to make a larger carnival company.

Of course, the players left are vying for



Shaw

the bigger spots to play and rightfully so, leaving the smaller venues to fend for themselves. The remaining carnival operators are now in the driver's seat. The local fireman's carnival, church bazaar, and smaller festivals and non-profit organization events with a more limited run, may not have any choice when it comes to a carnival to play their dates as many have migrated to larger locations with longer dates.

What can these small community events do? They may be faced with finding an operator with fewer rides or becoming creative with numerous inflatables or other attractions like axe throwing, pie eating contests, interactive games, petting zoos and family-oriented activities.

Or worse yet, no amusements at all.

The times have changed and unfortunately some spots will be left managing the best they can with what they can cobble together.

*Opinions expressed on this page are those of the columnist(s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the publisher.*



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# 2 MINUTE DRILL



AT: Janice Witherow

## Kristin Hellmich, OWA Parks and Resort

**Kristin Hellmich** has enjoyed her stint at **OWA**, a 250-acre family fun destination near the Gulf Coast in Alabama. With an impressive track record of being a strategic decision maker, operational problem solver and dynamic marketing professional, Kristin has recently been promoted to a new role within her parent organization (see below). She is an active volunteer in her community and loves promoting Alabama. Her energy, organization and can-do attitude will take her far. Good luck, Kristin!

**Title:** Currently serving as director of marketing and public relations for OWA. However, I am transitioning to director of external communications for our parent organization, the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.

**Number of years in the industry:** Seven

**Best thing about the industry:** We all have the opportunity to help so many individuals create special moments — from first rides on a roller coaster to long lost family (or friends) gathering for a day of fun.

**Favorite amusement ride:** My personal favorite ride is a classic carousel.

**If I wasn't working in the amusement industry, I would be ...** Working in some type of tourism and hospitality role.

**Biggest challenge facing our industry:** Balancing the phenomenal rebounds in attendance and revenues from 2021 with the now stabilization (and at times decline) of the tourism market in 2022.

**The thing I like most about amusement/water park season is ...** The energy and excitement of a fresh, new season shared by not only the team members but also the guests.

**Favorite breakfast food:** Coffee!

**The most memorable class I have ever taken would have to be ...** U.S. law and contracts courses while completing my BS degree in Marketing.

**Need advice? I turn to ...** My family!

**The person I would most like to take a road trip with is ...** My fiancée! He is the adventurous one. I am the planner!

**It's Friday night at 7 p.m. Where can we typically find you?** Dining at one of my favorite local Italian restaurants and enjoying baked ravioli.



Kristin Hellmich is currently transitioning from OWA Parks and Resort to new role in its parent company, the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.

COURTESY OWA PARKS AND RESORTS

**My favorite pizza topping is ...**

Always changing! Currently I am in love with Buffalo Chicken pizza.

**My next vacation will be to ...**

The Florida Keys. I love exploring the history and natural beauty of the area.

**You are at the movies ... choice of snack?**

Popcorn and Cherry Coke.

**My all-time favorite Michael Jackson song is ...** "Thriller."

**I find myself watching this TV show most often ...** A light-hearted comedy or drama.

**The first thing I do when I get home is ...** Give my dog Tookie a big snuggle!

**I get most of my news from ...** Social media. I am on it constantly with my job.

**Favorite place to hang out on a rainy day?** On the couch with a blanket, Tookie the dog and a good book or TV show.

**Something I own that would surprise my friends is ...** A zero-turn lawn mower! I love nothing more than hopping on my lawn mower in the spring and summer, throwing in some air pods.

**Ultimate fried food:**

My Grandmother's homemade fried pies.

**The song I know the most lyrics to is ...** "Sweet Home Alabama" by Lynyrd Skynyrd. Are you really from Alabama if you don't know that song by heart?

## THE INDUSTRY SEEN

### Tale of the Tail



ROBBINSVILLE, N.C. — *Amusement Today* Editor and Production Manager John Robinson took advantage of early spring weather to enjoy the real life roller coaster known as the Tail of the Dragon. The unique road — featuring 318 curves in its 11-mile span — borders the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and is a favorite among motorcycle riders for its challenging ride and thrilling turns. Robinson rode his 1994 Harley-Davidson Softail, which was originally titled to Ohio's former Americana Amusement Park, through the wild turns while on a road trip to visit The Funplex Myrtle Beach.

AT/JOHN W.C. ROBINSON

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Pantheon, the eighth in Busch Gardens arsenal of roller coasters, is a record breaker on numerous fronts. The 73 mph, 180-foot tall, 3,328-foot-long ride has a 95-degree drop, four launches, with five air-time hills, two inversions and a 90-degree, 180-foot spire, all in one minute and 52 seconds. The coaster is situated in a previously undeveloped plot of land in the Festa Italia section of the park, close to nearby Apollo's Chariot and Tempesto roller coasters.

COURTESY DEREK PERRY, BUSCH GARDENS WILLIAMSBURG

## ►PANTHEON

Continued from page 1

constant consultation with the park — what will work operationally, what are our guests asking for, what do we think would complement the park, what's missing in the park experience. It's a great partnership with our team in Orlando," said Lembke.

**Suzy Cheely**, director, design and engineering talked about the timeline for Pantheon. "We actually started a few years ago. We start out with a napkin sketch, then kind of go through our ideas of different alternate rides we might want to put in. Obviously, we're looking at ones we already have and what's out on the market these days. We chose this Intamin multi-launch coaster and we couldn't be more thrilled. It's just epic thrills the whole way through — a lot of fun." Cheely was quick to praise the experience they had

with the ride manufacturer. "Very good. They're very professional. It was really a good partnership."

During construction, **Sandor Kernacs**, president of **IntaRide, LLC** (a subsidiary of Intamin Worldwide that oversaw the construction project), visited the park every week, from his office in Glen Burnie, Maryland (Washington D.C. suburb), to make sure everything was going along smoothly. Asked what his company does, Kernacs said, "We build custom rides. We get the layout from the customer and come up with a product." Kernacs talked about working with the park. "It was great! We have a very good relationship with all SeaWorld parks." As for the ride, "Very fast and smooth. A good ride for the money."

The pandemic took its toll on the progress of Pantheon. "COVID slowed down a lot of things. Our



park was actually closed for several months. Everybody had to reschedule (sub-contractors). All the people weren't available at the same time. It's been interesting. Supply chains are still kind of disrupted," said Cheely.

She explained why this particular style of coaster was chosen for this location. "This is the one that fit this area. This was area that really was underdeveloped. We had horse pastures here. We have developed some new ones, back off the beaten path. It's been a homerun for us. The best part for me is when I see the guests after they've ridden the ride and the big smiles and everything. It's definitely well worth it."

A new attraction is always an attendance booster, as Lembke explains. "Anytime we launch a

major attraction like that [Pantheon], certainly demand increases, as you would expect. We're expecting big things this year. This is the biggest expansion [from a roller coaster standpoint], since Verbolten, which was 2012. We're in store for a big year."

When asked what Pantheon means to the park, Lembke said, "A once-in-a-generation ride. There's nothing like it, certainly in this region and very few even close to it in the world. We're debuting one-of-a-kind elements. This is a game changer for Busch Gardens. This addition is such a complement to the thrills we already have and gives guests something they haven't seen before. We truly are a coaster destination. It's so amazing to have something like that here on the mid-Atlantic, right here in Williamsburg."

SeaWorld Parks is add-

ing numerous roller coasters throughout the chain and with good reason. "It's all about guest demand. What are guests asking for," said Lembke. "I think we've seen, even at the SeaWorld parks, they can complement the experience. You're still getting all the animal components, the educational components — the beauty of those parks."

"People love thrill rides as well, whether that's a family thrill or high thrill like Pantheon — I think they can all work together. I think the added dimensions that coasters bring to something like a SeaWorld Park — I think it's been really important, and we know it's been good, because our guests are telling us it's good, ultimately that's what matters the most. As you've seen or heard from our leadership team, you can expect that to continue over the next few years."

What is Lembke's favorite seat on Pantheon? "You know in the front row; the view is so great because the front of the car is so low — it feels like you are driving it — that part is amazing. From a thrill experience, I would say the back is actually the best. When you go up the spike backwards, you get the most height in the back of the train. Then as you go over the top hat, that whipping motion as you go over the hill is pretty fantastic. Can't go wrong either way, but I'll vote for the back."



Above left showcases the tallest hill (inverted) on the nearly two-minute ride. Above right is the plaza approaching Pantheon. The queue starts beneath the logo and meanders on both sides underneath the track before approaching the station.

COURTESY BUSCH GARDENS WILLIAMSBURG, BGWPHOTOFAN



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on the opening of Pantheon and sends a big thank you for  
having enabled us to contribute to this great success!

Pantheon Busch Gardens Williamsburg



## ►TIDAL

Continued from page 1

"I think the Screaming Swing is one of the most underrated rides built in the world," said **Preston Perkes**, executive director of administration, S&S. "This ride uses the patented S&S air-launched technology. We know how to launch people, and we did that with the swing with pneumatics. You don't feel like you are just being pulled by gravity because you aren't. You are getting pushed and launched. That ride accelerates so quickly."

Standing at 105 feet, it is the largest of its kind. In operation, the two swinging arms reach a height of 135 feet.

"Every time I came off, I was so terrified, excited and thrilled. You climb to the max height so quickly. You go from 0 to 135 feet in a matter of seconds," said Perkes.

"When you're up there, you're 135 feet in the air. You're seeing the whole park if you take the time to look," added Surret.

Tidal Surge offers two experiences in a way, depending upon which direction riders face. One direction swings riders toward the lake, the other puts guests staring face down into the water. Surret finds rushing toward the water to be the



Riders swing beyond 90 degrees to a height of 135 feet. AT/TIM BALDWIN

most suspenseful. But both sides have their own thrill, all but demanding that riders brave enough to give it a second go should face the other direction.

"They really picked the perfect location of that ride, being on the edge of the lake," Perkes told *Amusement Today*. "Not only do you experience going up over the queue line and being above all the people, but you also get to swing out over the lake. It is so fast, and you go so high so quickly. It's unbelievable."

Anticipation for the ride is enhanced as the queue is placed directly in the swinging path of both booms, an

uncharacteristic trait in comparison to other attractions of this type.

"That's exactly why we did that," confirmed Surret. "Having people to be able to look up and literally feel the wind, all of that was part of our thought process in order to create more excitement before people board the ride."

"You're not just looking straight down. Riders are beyond 90 degrees. Your head is below your feet. It is terrifying, but it is one that is so thrilling and so fun. It's not like any other swinging ride [on the market]," said Perkes. "I had fun standing by the exit to watch. When the ride vehicles swing past you, you feel this big rush of wind."

Positioning this new attraction at the water's edge was important, but with that came challenges on the park's part.

The park had to lower the lake level and temporarily was unable to perform ski shows until that portion of construction was completed.

The water in the lake is used for multiple things, according to Surret, including the park's rapids ride and irrigation. It took almost two weeks to get the water level down to put the dam in place.

"On a smaller scale, but it was a little bit like Wave Breaker [Intamin launch coaster positioned over the opposite side of the lake]. We actually had to put a bladder in there and hold the water back like a little dam. It was like that for probably four months," Surret explained to *AT*. "Being able

to do it right by the water for both of those attractions was pretty key for us."

Tidal Surge makes for 22 Screaming Swings in operation around the world. Many of the installations seat 32 and stand 64 feet. SeaWorld's version is one of three that seat 40 passengers.

"You can look at the 105-foot-tall ride on the ground and think it looks fun, but the experience is so much greater than you think you're going to have when you're on the ground," said Perkes. "If you can imagine the size difference with those arms and how far they swing and how fast they swing — it's just taller and better."

While the physical structure of the ride can look somewhat industrial — which has led to various themes around the globe — the beautiful aesthetics to Tidal Surge help make it a standout.

"It's fun to see what each park does with the twists

they put into the theming," said Perkes. "With this particular ride, you see all the sea colors, and it has sort of a coral feel. Where you have maintenance platforms, they've covered those up with coral reef-type cutouts. They've done a great job with that. We here [at S&S] are really great at rides, but the creativity comes from the park, and SeaWorld has done a great job with that."

**Chuck Cureau**, marketing, SeaWorld San Antonio, feels the very essence of the ride ties into the theme. "The mechanics of the ride sound like the tide moving in and out."

Tidal Surge was not the first Screaming Swing purchased by the theme park chain. The sister park in Virginia had purchased a 32-seat version and took advantage of the park's terrain.

**Busch Gardens Williamsburg** did the same thing with Finnegan's Flyer. The SeaWorld Group seems to put the rides in unique locations," said Perkes. "In that park, they positioned it on a ravine area, making the land part of the experience. San Antonio did the same thing. They couldn't have picked a better spot for the ride."

SeaWorld San Antonio is open year round on weekends with daily operation during the summer, spring break and winter holidays.

"Working with the SeaWorld team over the past few years has been a great experience," said Perkes. "They're a sharp team; they know what they want, and they know what they are doing."



Artistic theming provides a sea motif to the attraction. AT/TIM BALDWIN



Tidal Surge is the largest Screaming Swing S&S has ever manufactured. AT/TIM BALDWIN





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# PARKS, FAIRS & ATTRACTIONS

► Foenix soars at Fårup Sommerland — page 18 / Miami-Dade County Youth Fair is back — page 32

## Zamperla to provide major ride package to Paradise Pier in Biloxi

AT: Tim Baldwin

tbaldwin@amusementtoday.com

BILOXI, Miss. — The **Margaritaville Resort** is now moving forward with plans for a themed amusement pier. Built atop a parking structure over the water, the Gulf of Mexico's newest entertainment destination will be called **Paradise Pier Fun Park**.

A 12-ride package from **Zamperla** will provide the majority of the attractions, but a handful of others will create the full complement.

"We have been in discussions for the better part of five years," said **Michael Coleman**, North American sales, Zamperla. "We are now ready for foundations."

With planning underway for so long, Zamperla had been on top of manufacturing and is preparing rides to arrive in early summer. With the unpredictability of transportation, labor and the supply chain during a global pandemic, hopes are that the amuse-



North America's first **Air Race 6.2** model (above) will land at Paradise Pier. The action of the larger models is performed in a more compact footprint. **Pump & JumpZ** (right) is one of Zamperla's newest offerings. COURTESY ZAMPERLA

ment pier will be entertaining guests by late summer.

Rides are preparing to ship this month. The structure has been in place for some time.

"From the very beginning, the intention was to have an amusement park built on top of it," said

Coleman.

The ride package consists of a **Galleon 42**, **Mega Disk'O 24**, **Super Happy Swing**, **Jump Around**, **Sky Tower**, **Samba Balloon**, **Midi Family Swinger**, 16-seat **Discovery Revolution**, **Speedway**, **Air Race 6.2**, **Pump & JumpZ** and a double-decker carousel.

**Pump & JumpZ** was a new ride introduced at the **IAAPA Expo** in November 2021. Coleman says the **Air Race 6.2** is the first of that model in North America.

"It has a more compact footprint," said Coleman, "Based on the structure where the amusement park is going to live, spatially there were some challenges. Looking at how to maximize the offerings to the guests, we looked at the 6.2, which



has existed in indoor centers and malls around the world. It's still the main ride action but in a compact space."

The ride arsenal offers a wide mix to appeal to children and families, as well as some thrill rides. Coleman stated that each ride will have custom theming.

"The carousel is one that has never been seen before," Coleman told *Amusement Today*. "This is the first double-decker carousel for us to bring to market. It's a combination of horses, bench seating and teacup style gondolas."

Because of the venue's position on the oceanfront,

safety consideration had to be taken for weather and the possibility of hurricanes.

"You have a highly corrosive environment," said Coleman. "Rides are also subject to very high wind speeds. The physical engineering that has gone into the rides help them withstand the potential for maximum threat windspeeds. If a storm [was approaching], there is a set of procedures in place for each ride to help preserve it."

He adds that special treatment has gone into how seals and the paint process were implemented in

► See **ZAMPERLA**, page 12



The ride mix offers attractions suitable for the young and thrill-seeker, many of which allow parents to ride with children. COURTESY ZAMPERLA

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►ZAMPERLA  
Continued from page 11

consideration of the ocean-front environment. “We’re looking at it from a very holistic standpoint to make sure each of these rides not only meets but exceeds the expectations of the client and the guests.”

The ride attractions will be decked out with eye-catching lighting.

Three other companies will be providing an attraction to the ride mix.

An Aerobar built by Aerophile will be an attraction geared more toward adults. Riders sit in a circle facing a center bartender. Rising 115 from the upper deck, visitors enjoying a drink will take in

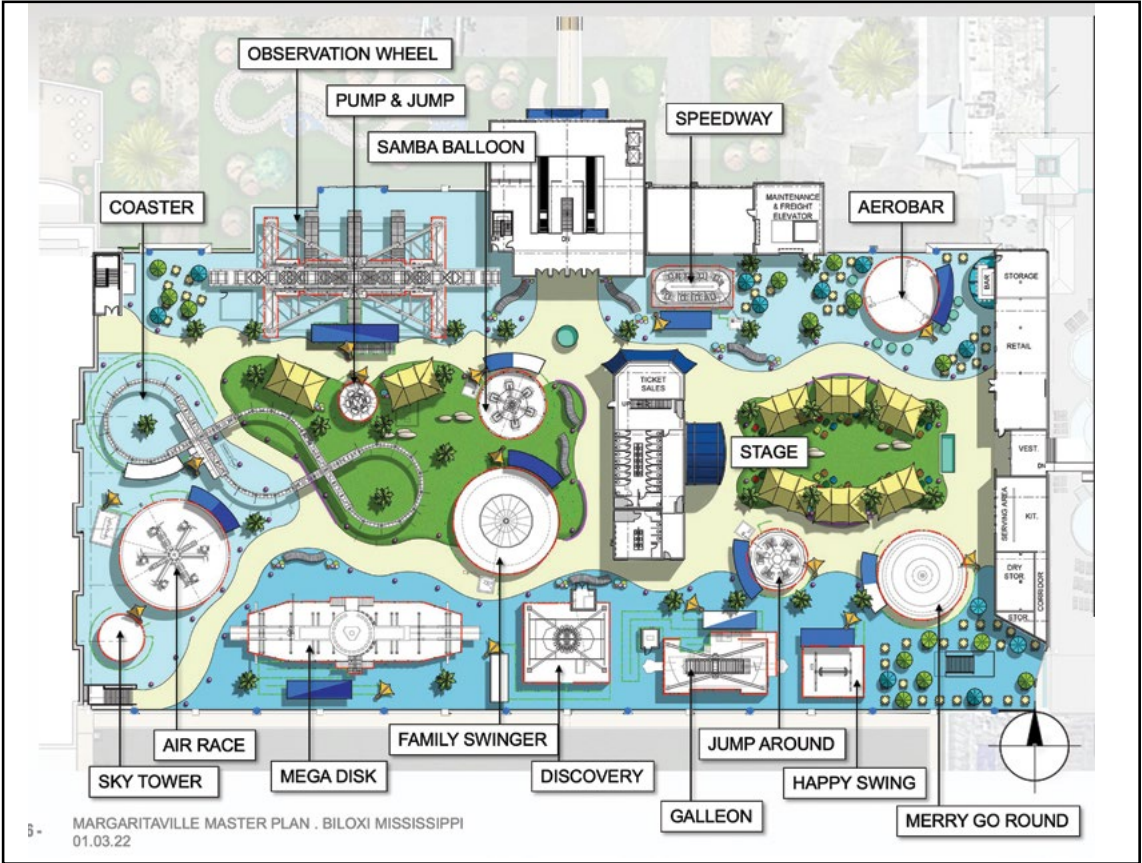
The placement of the attractions on the pier, as well as some of the customized theming can be seen in these renderings. COURTESY PARADISE PIER

spectacular views while at the highest height for five minutes. The trip up and down takes two minutes each way.

A 20-story observation wheel from Technical Park will attract attention from tourists to the area.

An SBF coaster will feature a “triple loop” layout, which is expanded beyond the widely seen figure-8 model. Both spinning cars and “hamster wheel” carriages will be featured.

Further phases of the resort development will see a hotel and water park.







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# Wiegand CoasterKart opens at Thailand's Jungle Adventure Park

AT: Pam Sherborne  
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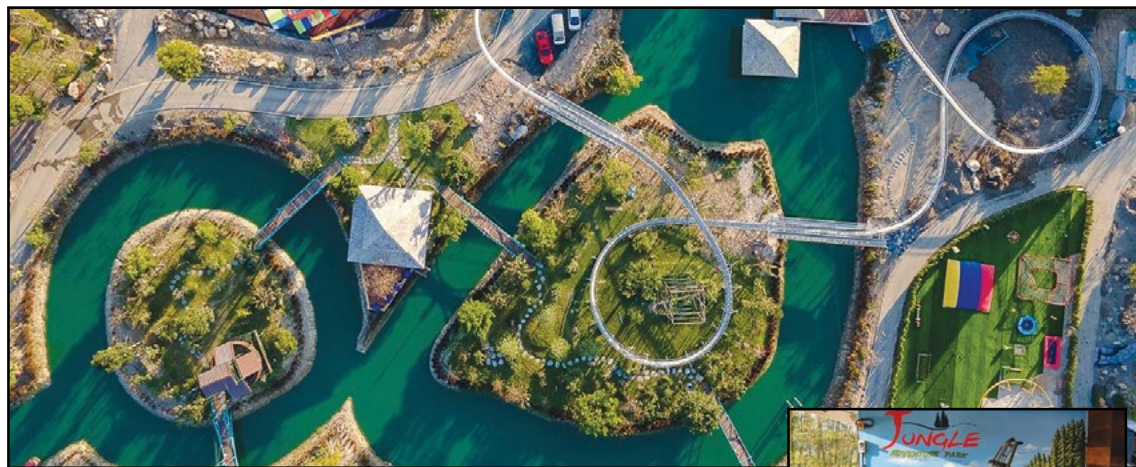
HANG DONG, Thailand — **Wiegand** has done it again.

After installing its CoasterKart in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, last year, the company turned its focus on the Asian continent, near Chiang Mai in northern Thailand.

On March 19, the newest CoasterKart opened in the **Jungle Adventure Park** in Hang Dong.

"It has been received very well in Hang Dong," said **Jessica Wedel**, sales, project manager, Wiegand North America.

The 425-meter (1,394 feet) CoasterKart has a jungle theme to fit in with the other elements at Jungle Adventure Park, which include attractions such as ziplines with 36 stations, jungle bike on a sling, easy jumper, a giant swing and



Wiegand has opened a CoasterKart installation at Jungle Adventure Park in Hang Dong, Thailand, on March 19. The new installation has a jungle theme to nicely fit in with the park's other attractions. Patrons love the idea of being able to control the speed of their vehicle. COURTESY WIEGAND

a hotel and a spa.

Five vehicles of different colors make the rounds on the varied circuit and repeatedly inspire guests as they drive up and down through the park over bridges and waters, through roundabouts and on straight racetracks.

The CoasterKart combines numerous elements of

its Wiegand predecessors, the BobKart and the Alpine Coaster, the latter being the company's bestseller.

"Patrons love to be able to control their speed," Wedel said.

On the CoasterKart, the rider controls the speed up to 25 mph by using a foot pedal or throttle lever. The custom-themed vehicles are pow-



ered by a frictionless Linear Induction Motor (LIM) that creates a smooth acceleration and braking motion.

Wiegand can design the track to flat or hilly terrain, indoors or outdoors and with overpasses and tunnels. It is easy to install and has an environmentally friendly footprint that does

not require foundations to support the track.

The track also allows for year-round operations.

"The whole thing happens absolutely gently and with magical ease," Wedel said. "Hang Dong is a smaller but beautiful upcoming tourist destination that is worth a visit. You will be surprised by some of the unique things to do and places you can explore at this hidden destination."

The Jungle Adventure Park is open 365 days a year.

The CoasterKart won two Brass Ring Awards at the **International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions Expo** in November 2021. It won in Major Ride and Impact Award categories.

Wiegand has plans for a third CoasterKart installation in northern Germany at **Tier- und Freizeitpark Thüle**.

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# All Speeds from Intamin brings Sunac Land Chengdu excitement

AT: Tim Baldwin

tbaldwin@amusementtoday.com

DUJIANGYAN, China — **Sunac Land Chengdu** opened in September of 2020 in admittedly turbulent times. For more than a year, the park, operated by **Sunac China Holdings Ltd.**, offered two roller coasters to its audience. A family mine train coaster — while exceptionally themed — was the larger of the two, the other being a Wacky Worm type.

As 2022 arrived, the park debuted **All Speeds**, an installation from **Intamin Amusement Rides**. The Chinese characters above the words “All Speeds” could possibly be better translated as “Extreme Speeds,” but the roller coaster is an undeniable winner.

Coaster connoisseurs might pick up on the fact the layout is extremely similar to **Taron**, a dual-launch coaster that opened at **Phantasialand** in Germany in 2016.



**All Speeds reaches speeds over 72 mph. Extensive theming accents the excitement of the twisted roller coaster.**

COURTESY

LIU LIN/ZACHARY ZHANG



“It is always great to see that a design is liked so much, and it also shows proven success. Considering how many hours go into the engineering, design, etc. on any roller coaster, it is definitely a good feeling and makes us proud,” an Intamin spokesperson told *Amusement Today*. “As space is limited in many parks, relatively compact footprint layouts, like this one, are very popular. All the air-

time, unexpected changes of directions, near misses as well as the 116 track crossings made the customer love this layout.”

While the track and topography have slight differences, **All Speeds** is pretty much a move-for-move duplication of **Taron**. That’s by no means a bad thing. **Taron** is immensely popular for good reason — it’s wonderful fun! The bursts of speed, slithering curves and

close clearances are executed perfectly.

However, both have their own theming package to set each apart. **All Speeds** is surrounded by temples, ruins, sculptures and craggy rockwork. It carries its own thematic clout. A fantastic layout coupled with fantastic theming is a win-win.

“The theming on **All Speeds** makes the coaster, just like **Taron**, fascinating when riding it,” said

the Intamin spokesperson. “Riding close to the rockwork and changing directions low [to the] ground increase the feeling of speed immensely.”

**All Speeds** operates with four 16-passenger trains which feature over-the-shoulder lap bars. These trains were introduced on **Taron** and have been the go-to model for Intamin since. The comfort of the trains as well as the open freedom provide an ideal coaster riding experience. The theming on the front of the trains is a bull’s head. The red eyes are equipped with LED lights, which create an even wilder look.

Track length is 2,320 meters (4,330 feet); the highest point reaches 30 meters (98 feet). Top speed reaches 72 mph.

Sunac China Holdings Ltd. now oversees 15 parks in China. The first opened in 2015. **Sunac Cultural Tourism City** in Zhejiang is projected to open in 2022.

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# Fønix soars at Fårup Sommerland, Vekoma coaster Denmark's tallest

AT: Tim Baldwin  
tbaldwin@amusementtoday.com

BLOKHUS, Denmark — On April 9, one of the largest new attractions to open in Europe began satisfying Danes with the need for an adrenaline rush. **Fårup Sommerland** debuted **Fønix**, the country's largest coaster and the largest investment in park history. **Vekoma** supplied the new thriller.

"Here in Fårup Sommerland, we take great pride in presenting a roller coaster that is without comparison the biggest in Denmark — a fact that will come to leave a significant imprint on both the Danish and the international amusement landscape, says Fårup Sommerland's CEO **Niels Jørgen Jensen**.

Standing more than 131 feet tall and with a track length just short of 3,000 feet, the design of the coaster emphasizes thrills even beyond the ride's statistics.

"The first element, dubbed the 'stall loop,' combines a traditional Immelman inversion



Numerous elements make Fønix a spectacular ride, including a section of track that inverts right through the station building.  
COURTESY FÅRUP SOMMERLAND

with an unexpected pop of inverted airtime, aka hangtime, at the top," said **Benjamin Bloemendaal**, head of concept engineering, Vekoma. "We wanted to spice up the classic turn-around element, by turning its apex into an extended, parabolic arc. This causes the vehicle to 'pause' briefly while upside down, providing some negative forces before picking up speed again down a double vertical twist."

The ride features three inversions. One of the ride's signature elements is an upside-down flip through the station building.

"We first incorporated this element on Lech Coaster in Poland and was one of the elements that we definitely wanted to carry over to Fønix," Bloemendaal told *Amusement Today*. "For guests queueing in the station, seeing the train fly upside down through the building at high speed amps up the anticipation, while to guests onboard the element provides some awesome near-miss visuals. On Fønix we actually took this near-miss effect one step up from Lech Coaster, by placing the approach to the flip-over at ground level.

The train seems to fly up to the cutout only just in time."

During the wickedly out-of-control layout, several maneuvers purposely throw riders off balance.

"We keep looking for ways to improve our designs," noted Bloemendaal. "Ever since we've changed design and production methods a few years ago, we've been learning from our first set of new-generation installations. We have been constantly gathering data and tweaking our models, which allows us to refine our tools and expand

our design philosophy. The more intricate aerobatics you see on Fønix is something of a trend you'll see in most of our upcoming coasters."

Vekoma Sales Manager **Stefan Holtman** added, "After the success of our Suspended Family Coaster Orkanen in 2013, something else was needed. After a mutual trip to **Legandia Park** in Poland, the owners of the park fell immediately in love with the Lech coaster there, but as Fårup Sommerland is a typical family park, we were concerned that this ride would be a bit too intense for their target group. Therefore we had to work on a less intense version focusing more on airtime and less positive forces. This is how Fønix was born."

The coaster operates with two trains and reaches speeds of 59 mph.

Saven, a Vekoma family boomerang, opened in 2020. "It was the perfect step up to the launch of the record-breaking Fønix in 2022," said Holtman.

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# Sartori Rides completes portable inverted coaster: Nova Coaster

AT: Tim Baldwin  
tbaldwin@amusementtoday.com

MONTAGNANA, Italy — A dynamic midway on a carnival or fair scene has a mix of family rides and eye-catching spectacles. **Sartori Rides** has completed testing on its newest introduction to the market. Called Nova Coaster, the thrilling inverted coaster is designed to be a portable attraction.

In the past, the company offered a former model called Energizer. Sartori is confident, the upgrades of Nova Coaster are a leap forward.

"Compared to the 'old' model, Nova Coaster has a completely redesigned layout to be more smooth, has a higher hill, lower acceleration spike, totally redesigned trains (safety ergonomic seats, safety restraint system and components), new control safety system, magnetic brakes for stopping, VFD inverter driven kicker-wheels for smooth/precise movements between



Tangled layers intertwine track adding to the visuals of the rider (above left). Riders flip through three inversions on Nova Coaster (above right). COURTESY SARTORI RIDES



sections of the stations, and it is fully German TUV SUD approved," said Sales Manager **Marco Savegnago**.

The compact footprint is made to be easily disassembled and moveable. The dimensions of the ride are 180 feet by 98 feet (55 by 30 meters) with a height of almost 79 feet (24 meters).

"Based on our experience, it takes approximately 10 working days with a team of 10 persons to

assemble the coaster on location," said Savegnago.

Trains feature five rows, with two-across seating. Riders' feet dangle with nothing below them. The standard model has two trains, but at the customer's request, the latest model that has completed testing was designed to run three.

As coasters typically are on the fairground circuit, Nova Coaster's layout is compact and inter-

twined. Even with its modest height, the snarled track boasts three inversions following a diving first drop. Coaster fans will know elements such as Immelmann and cobra roll (which features two upside-down moments). A high speed spiral delivers exciting forces while offering a sense of flight. A curving approach to brake run finishes the ride. Top G forces are 4.7.

"The most thrilling moment is the cobra roll," said Savegnago. "Thanks to the new design, the ride is now very smooth and silent."

The ride experience is expected to be 100 seconds.

The first Nova Coaster to operate will be in Saudi Arabia. It is fully EN13814:2019 compliant and TUV certified. It is expected to open in May.

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## Park Post-its



AT: Pam Sherborne  
[psherborne@amusementtoday.com](mailto:psherborne@amusementtoday.com)

**Dollywood**, Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, has announced the lineup for the Rock the Smokies concert series, which is returning to the park for the first time since 2019.

Rock the Smokies is a Christian music festival held at the Dollywood amusement park. Fans can come enjoy the music and other festivities at the park.

The event will take place Saturday, August 27, and will feature headliners **Toby Mac** and **Newsboys**. According to the park, Christian hip-hop artist **Aaron Cole**, **Katy Nichole**, sister pop duo **Renee and Ben Fuller** are set to perform as well. Actor and comedian **Heath Arthur** will be the emcee for the performances and other performers may be announced at a later date.

Tickets will go on sale this month.

Change is the name of the game this year at **Nelis' Dutch Village**, Holland, Michigan.

In addition to opening its first-ever downtown retail shop, Dutch Village Downtown, the historic amusement park is undergoing a multi-year transformation, beginning with a new parking lot.

Other renovations have yet to be announced.

An area attraction for kids of all ages will soon reopen in southeast Kansas. Members of the City of Pittsburg Parks and Recreation Department are getting **Kiddieland**, located in Pittsburg's **Lincoln Park**, ready to reopen.

Thanks to a donation from a local business, **Riggs Chiropractic**, a vintage carousel will be the main attraction this year at the park. The carousel isn't in the park yet, but is in the process of being restored inside another location. Site work was in the process mid-April.

Kiddieland is scheduled to open May 6 for the 2022 season. Hopes are the carousel will be ready then.

Another change to Kiddieland this season will be a new perimeter fence around the whole facility to provide better security when the park isn't open.

**Lake Compounce** in Bristol, Connecticut, kicked off its 2022 season the last weekend in April. The park will keep weekend operations through the weekend of May 22.

A new event will take place during this time. Called Kids Fest, it is all about children, with extra activities, entertainment and special characters to the already wild rides and treats at the park. The fun will take place at Kiddie Land, the home base for Kids Fest.

According to Lake Compounce officials, guests of all ages can join in on bubble dance parties, mingle with balloon twisters, stilt walkers, jugglers and for the first time ever, meet beloved children's characters Arthur and Pete the Cat.

Photo opportunities and meet and greets are being offered.

The **Monterey Bay Aquarium** in Monterey, California, debuted its "Into the Deep — Exploring our Undiscovered Ocean" exhibit on April 16.

The exhibit is featuring more than 50 different marine creatures including a red jellyfish, spider crabs, bone-eating worms and giant isopods.

The **Strong National Museum of Play**, Rochester, New York, will receive \$2 million in state funding to support a new welcome atrium, New York **Governor Kathy Hochul** announced last month.

According to a local news agency, the soaring new atrium and gateway building will coincide with the museum's 90,000-square-foot expansion project. State officials hope the expanded museum will become a major visitor attraction.

The atrium will be the centerpiece of the **Neighborhood of Play**, a multi-partner urban development.

**Franklin Park Zoo** in Boston, Massachusetts, opened its new \$9.1 million habitat called Gorilla Grove on April 12, allowing guests to observe the social dynamics and national behaviors of the zoo's six gorillas.

The more than 360,000-cubic-foot outdoor habitat includes an interactive central observational outpost, a waterfall, several built-in foraging opportunities and a mix of real and fabricated trees.

It may come down to the wire, but the plan is to have the **Tuscora Park** Ferris wheel ready to begin carrying riders aloft by Memorial Day weekend. Work has been underway since last summer at the New Philadelphia, Ohio, park to make improvements to the near century-old wheel.

According to a local news story, the steel structure has been extensively renovated and painted by Dover Tank and Plate Company. The gondolas also were renovated and painted.

Some additional parts for the hydraulic drive system were being fabricated as is a new loading platform.

Officials at the park look forward to having the renovated wheel up and running for the 2022 season.





Along with over 125 rides and attractions, U.K.'s Blackpool Pleasure Beach officials have put together an array of special events this year that will appeal to all guests. COURTESY BLACKPOOL PLEASURE BEACH

## Blackpool Pleasure Beach to offer special events in 2022

BLACKPOOL, U.K. — From escorted climbs to the very top of Big One XL roller coaster to a spectacular ice show to magical illusions, **Blackpool Pleasure Beach** officials have worked hard to be able to deliver special events that will appeal to everyone for the 2022 season.

These special events go along well with the 42-acre park's more than 125 rides and attractions, including 10 roller coasters. Located on Blackpool's South Shore, in the county of Lancashire, North West England, the park has been family-owned-and-operated since its founding in 1896.

The Walk the Big One is one of the most popular special events, but it isn't for the faint of heart, literally. The tour takes participants up 420 steps to the very top of the coaster, taking guests to parts of the ride they have never seen before.

And if guests like that, the park also offers Walk the Woodie. This special experience gives guests the chance to walk up the lift hill of the park's oldest roller coaster, the Big Dipper. As well as experiencing amazing views, participants can find out more about the ride's history.

Also being offered on nine dates for the 2022 season is the popular Late Night Riding event. A number of these events will include a spectacular fireworks display to round off the night.

The FY4 and The Hub areas of the park are the homes of on-park entertainment at Blackpool Pleasure Beach. Here, guests are able to enjoy some great entertainment and sample food and drink.

The Evolution Of Magic — The Glitch, with **Craig Christian** and **Elizabeth Best**, is one show being offered this year. This fast-paced family show will include exciting illusions.

**Ken Webster's** comedy hypnotist show is being offered as well as the **Paul Zerdin Show**. Zerdin, a ventriloquist, is the 2015 winner of America's Got Talent.

In addition, Blackpool is bringing back its ice show, Hot Ice, with a new production called Hot Ice Rapture.

Monthly events include Summertime Games in June and Oktoberfest throughout September.

In time for Halloween, the Journey To Hell event returns where guests will get to experience the park — and a number of rides — like never before.

In December, there will be plenty of magical festive events for the whole family, such as Cinderella the Pantomime. Santa will be on hand while guests will be able to enjoy the festive fun experiences guided by the park's magical elves through a winter wonderland.

—Pam Sherborne



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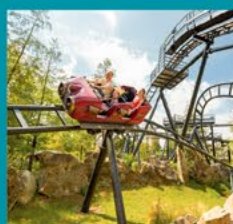
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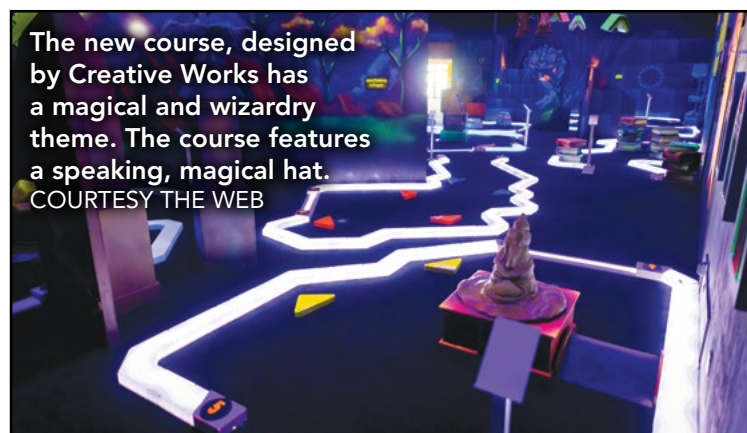
# Creative Works creates inspired magical miniature golf for The Web

AT: Pam Sherborne  
psherborne@amusementtoday.com

WEST CHESTER, Ohio — The new magical and wizardry miniature golf course at **The Web Extreme Entertainment** family entertainment center (FEC), located in West Chester, Ohio, is delighting many since it opened in late January.

The new nine-hole course that staff at the FEC named Par 9 3/4 was made by Creative Works, of Indianapolis. Creative Works is an award-winning, full-service partner for designing, fabricating, installing and successfully running immersive amusement experiences.

"Our new mini golf course has been absolutely phenomenal," said **Sean Korsnak**, director of sales, marketing and projects, The Web. "We charged \$5 to play our old course. When we opened the new one, we increased our price to \$9 and no one blinked. No one said



The new course, designed by Creative Works has a magical and wizardry theme. The course features a speaking, magical hat. COURTESY THE WEB

a thing. Everyone is just so happy to play it."

Korsnak said the prior course, which had a Jurassic Park-inspired theme, was almost 20 years old and was starting to look its age.

"We needed an update," he said. "We needed a change."

So, after convincing the FEC owner, **Jerry Weber**, to update the course, **Creative Works** was hired.

"Creative Works was amazing," Korsnak said. "They cared about my vision and who I was and what we wanted for the facility. They really listened."

Creative Works brought the vision of magic and wizardry to life. They created spell books, flying cars, trains, murals and a griffin flying over.

There is a talking hat that has several things to say as balls pass beneath it.

**Russ Van Natta**, vice president, business development, Creative Works said that with any project the company undertakes, they take a look at the story behind the project.

"Here, we had miniature golf so that part was already there. So we took a look at



The electric edging of the course helps to create a focus for patrons. COURTESY THE WEB

what was driving the team at The Web," he said.

What Creative Works found was The Web team wanted a fantasy escape universe to live in.

"So our team of mad scientists magically got drawn into a Harry Potter-type theme," Van Natta said. "As we honed into this, it came together nicely. It was designed so that the course revealed itself to you."

Of course, he said, there was much work at the onset to make sure Creative Works didn't violate any intellectual property.

They were created from beginning to completion by Creative Works.

Korsnak said the electric edging to the course is a plus. Not only does it light up the course, giving it focus, it also can be used to theme for different holidays as the color of the lights can be changed.

The Web Extreme Entertainment also includes other attractions such as laser tag, go-karts, mini-bowling, climbing wall, escape room, and a vast arcade and prize center. All await under one roof.

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# Funplex Myrtle Beach celebrates first full season with additions

AT: John W.C. Robinson  
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MYRTLE BEACH — The newest amusement park along Myrtle Beach's Grand Strand, **The Funplex Myrtle Beach**, officially reopened on March 12. After COVID-related construction delays held up its 2021 opening day slightly, 2022 marks an opportunity for the park to have a complete season.

"We are so excited to be open for our first full season of operations," said **Michael Baumann**, Funplex Myrtle Beach's general manager. "We used the off-season to review our operations and find new ways to keep our guests entertained with this second season."

The park opened in 2021 with seven attractions loaded into its 18,000 square feet of space. All of the attractions were new rides manufactured by **SBF/Visa Group**. The rides were provided by New Jersey's **Rides 4 U**, with the attractions first being discussed during IAAPA Expo 2019.

"There is a lot of competition in Myrtle Beach when it comes to theme parks, and we made sure that Funplex stood out with our ride offerings," commented Baumann. "Mach Fun (Tower Planes) and the Fun in the Sun coaster (Visa Big Air Coaster) are both record-breaking attractions and helping to lead our industry in innovation."

The return of the in-person IAAPA Expo brought new opportunities for Funplex in the 2022 season. "It was great to be back at [IAAPA Expo 2021] in November and work with our partners like **Bobs Space Racers**, **Dippin' Dots** and **Light Up Toys** to bring their products into our park in 2022."

New for 2022, the park has added three custom-built carnival-style games, a full-service Dippin' Dots kiosk featuring eight flavors, a photo booth, a glow-in-the-dark bubble wand cart and new menu options at its Off-the-Coast Beach Bar and Grill.

"The Funplex Myrtle Beach was well received when it opened in 2021," said **Brian Williams**, CEO of Funplex's parent company **The Lahn**



The Funplex Myrtle Beach delivers multiple attractions in a compact footprint. The LED light packages on the park's attractions illuminate the beachside skyline. The inverting thrills of Mach Fun (inset) has stood out with guests.

AT/JOHN W.C. ROBINSON

**Hospitality and Amusement Group.** "We believe the new games and menu options will round out the guest experience as we head into our first full season."

Working with Bob's Space Racers, The Funplex debuted three new, custom-built games in 2022, including a Plinko-style puck drop game, a Kiddie Striker, and a four-player water race game.

Using **Embed's** RFID card system with the park, the Funplex Myrtle Beach offers multiple ride packages, including a unique week-long ride pass that allows guests to come and go as they please.

"Being that this is a big tourist market, and the average guest is spending at least five days in the area, we wanted them to have the option to fit multiple Funplex visits into their schedule," said Baumann. "We have noticed guests will come in the morning and get some rides in. They then head to the beach for a couple of hours to enjoy the beautiful Myrtle Beach waters. After heading back to their hotel, they join us for dinner and rides at night. The park has a fun energy at night with the lights and music."

Speaking on the park's dynamic lighting and music, Bauman added: "I walk the park every night and get

stopped by guests who complement the visual appearance of the park and how nice our lighting package looks. It adds another element to the fun that we want to offer our guests. We are working on a programmed light show that will go off every night and be themed to music.

The park's Off-the-Coast Beach Bar & Grill's 2022 menu includes adding new handheld sandwiches, popcorn, pretzels, **ICEE**, corn dogs and frozen drinks to its existing full menu of family favorites.

"Our fried chicken sandwich, homemade sangrias, and buffalo chicken offerings have been very popular this season," stated Baumann. "Our food numbers are outperforming all other areas when it comes to our in-park spending. We added some



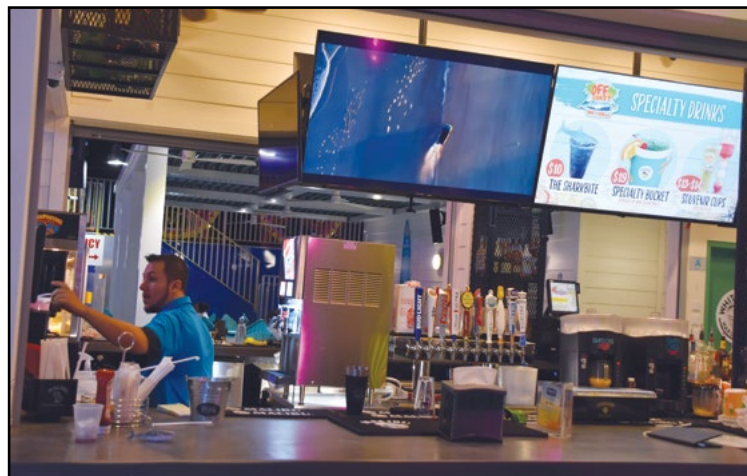
Northeast favorites like Disco Fries and homemade macaroni salad. We also redid the entire drink menu during the off-season and looked at each item to make sure we delivered on flavor and presentation. I am excited about our Frozen Jack and Cola machine we will be adding to the bar in early May. Our fan-favorite continues to be our Shark Bite drink which comes with a toy shark guests get to take home."

Despite its compact design and footprint, Funplex Myrtle Beach is not finished growing. "We are pretty maxed out right now

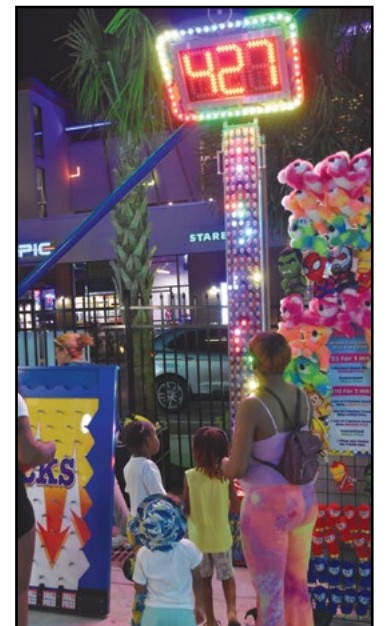
when it comes to space but we are always looking at ways that we can create new experiences for our guests and keep up with the trends we see in the industry," offered Baumann. "Funplex is excited to be adding to the rich history Myrtle Beach has with theme parks. We aim to set the bar for the future of attractions in this area."

Funplex Myrtle Beach will remain open for the season through October 2022.

•[thefunplex.com/myrtle-beach](http://thefunplex.com/myrtle-beach)



The Off-the-Coast Beach Bar and Grill is centrally located within Funplex Myrtle Beach and has added multiple items to its menu for the park's second season. A compact Kiddie Striker is just one of multiple midway games added to the park in 2022. AT/JOHN W.C. ROBINSON





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# Stern Pinball keeps the amusement staple alive with connections

AT: Tim Baldwin

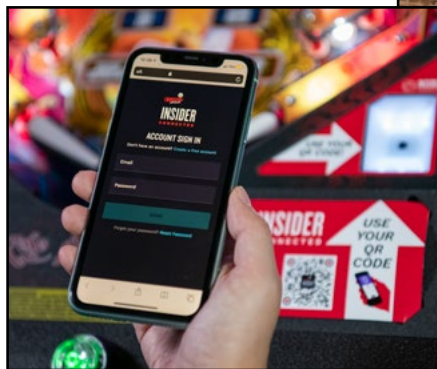
tbaldwin@amusementtoday.com

ELK GROVE VILLAGE, Ill. — “I’ve been in pinball my entire life,” said **Zach Sharpe**, director of marketing for **Stern Pinball**. Now with the company for about five years, Sharpe shares with *Amusement Today* how the ages-old form of recreation not only changes with the times but keeps itself current.

With many FECs being geared toward redemption games, pinball machines have a larger presence in arcades and the latest trend: arcade bars. In addition to that, owning a pinball machine in one’s home is a bragging right among neighbors.

“Pinball has become more [present] in the home market, but we are still servicing our commercial establishments, whether it is arcade bars or family entertainment centers,” said Sharpe. “Redemption games are staples at FECs, but pinball is just as hot — and is increasing. We can’t build these machines fast enough to put on location, as well as put into people’s homes.”

Pinball awareness can also come from local events.



Players scan their personal QR code to be connected to Stern Insider before playing (inset). Stern hosts qualifying tournaments around the globe (right). COURTESY STERN PINBALL



“We have what’s called our Stern Army, and they help run these street events every week or every month all over the world. That increases coin drop, as well as incidental spending such as food and drink,” said Sharpe.

Stern Pinball has made technical advancements that further engage fans and connect fellow players.

“Our machines are now smart,” Sharpe told AT. “They connect to the internet. Code for the machines can update wirelessly. Players can create

their own user profiles and keep track of their scores. You can earn achievements within the machines. This has really helped location play. You’ll have people who want to play ‘Deadpool,’ for example, and earn all the achievements in the game.”

Stern has connected its players via an online site: [sternpinball.com/insider](http://sternpinball.com/insider).

Players create a private account, and a smartphone can access the QR reader on each machine. Before a player

begins each game, he or she can scan the phone to identify the associated account with the scores. Stern Insider is a completely new gaming system built specifically for and by pinball players.

“You get notifications when getting achievements. It is really slick,” said Sharpe.

Players can engage the pinball community forums and explore achievements. Tutorials are even offered to let the avid fan get the most out of their play.

Tournaments also create energy worldwide.

“The Stern Pro Circuit is its own circuit of tournaments,” said Sharpe. “There are 20 tournaments on the calendar, and it culminates with the Stern Pro Circuit Championship. To describe it to a non-pinball person, an analogy would be like a NASCAR Cup or FedEx Cup for golf. You have these 20 events and people are accumulating their worldwide ranking points. After these events, the top 20 ranking players are invited into this championship.”

In creating new games, Stern finds IP is the way to go.

“If you’re going to bring someone off the street into a family entertainment center or a showroom, if you have a [generic theme] or ‘Star Wars’ right next to it, which do you think a family is going to choose?” Sharpe said. “We already have established so many licensing relationships across the industry and landscape, regardless of theme. This is how we service so many different markets. In a restaurant, some people like steak, some people like chicken. It’s no different with [pinball].”

“Some people like ‘Rush,’ some people like ‘Stranger Things,’ others like ‘The Mandalorian.’ We don’t want to make the same theme over and over. We want to diversify our catalog. Every game has a different story. Sometimes there is a rock band that wants to make a pinball machine, which was the case with Rush.

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► See STERN, page 30



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## ►STERN

Continued from page 28

They were actively intrigued. We spoke with their management and made that dream become a reality. In other cases, we actively go after other licenses, and they may not even be aware of pinball."

With different markets, Stern makes different models available. Pro machines contain all the gameplay, but premium models and

limited edition series might include more "toys" to service the enthusiast and consumer market. Although the pro models are better suited to arcade play, Sharpe notes many facilities enjoy the limited editions because many of them are enthusiasts as well.

"At the end of the day, it is a metal ball flying around hitting stuff," he said. "You have to maintain it. It's just like your car. If you take care of it, it will take care of you."



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## FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT CENTRAL

AT: John W.C. Robinson

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A new entertainment center is coming to South Carolina. **Cingery Entertainment**, a Texas-based entertainment group, will add a new location at the **BridgeWay Station** in Mauldin, South Carolina.

Cingery will offer an immersive VR universe, boutique bowling lanes, fully-themed escape rooms, luxury dine-in theaters, a chef-inspired menu and a sports-themed bar. The up-to \$23 million project will be the ninth location for the entertainment company and will be constructed separately from the Bridgeway Station's first phase of about 718,000 square feet of retail, residential, office and institutional space.

"We couldn't be more excited to expand into Greenville and be part of BridgeWay Station," said **Traci Hoey**, vice president of marketing for Cingery Entertainment. "We are excited to unveil our new prototype design synergizing all of the incredible experiences which [have] catapulted us to [one of] the top family entertainment centers in the world."

Word came in mid-April that **Shores Bowl** of Ocean Shores, Washington, would be permanently closing.

**Rob Shaver**, owner of Shores Bowl in Ocean Shores, posted a flyer on the door of the longtime family entertainment establishment, which read: "It is with great sadness that I must announce that Shores Bowl will be permanently closing in May 2022. We have been unable to secure a lease extension after 24 years in business with the same landlord. After 62 years, Ocean Shores will no longer have a bowling center, as the landowner says he has other plans for the this space. Shores Bowl has been a staple in this community since 1960 and has been owned and operated by us since 1998."

This is only the latest bowling center in western Washington to close with **Narrows Plaza Bowl** in University Place closing in February and **Tech City Bowl** in Kirkland scheduled to shutter in October.

**Two Bit Circus**, a popular entertainment and steam punk-themed destination in downtown Los Angeles' Arts District, plans to open a second location at the **Shops at Park Lane** in Dallas, Texas, sometime this fall.

The company will set up shop inside a 38,000-square-foot space on the shopping center's second floor.

"[Dallas] was always a target market for us," said **Andy Levey**, marketing

director at Two Bit Circus. "We had planned expansion early on, but everything happening with the pandemic slowed those plans down. But the business is booming. We want to start capitalizing and moving on to a new era."

After navigating through the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic and pandemic-related closures, things are looking up for Two Bit Circus. The so-called micro-amusement park opened in 2018 and features high-tech midway games, virtual and augmented reality, unique escape rooms, robot bartenders and restaurants.

A new miniature golf course is coming to Bemidji, Minnesota. Dubbed **Boardwalk**, the new facility will be built in Bemidji's **South Shore** development.

The plans for the 18-hole course feature a waterfall and an all-seasons snack shack with wood-fired pizza, ice cream, beer and patio seating.

"We don't have any mini golf around here," said **Carrie Strassburg** of **Strassburg Surveying**, which is supervising the build. "It really just transpired from what Bemidji doesn't have. (My husband and business partner) **Todd** had talked a lot about how there used to be a place for people to mini golf, and it was a thing people looked forward to and was busy. And he (said), 'One day it just went away.'"

That facility was the **Putt-N-Go Amusement Park**, a former Bemidji attraction which included water slides, go-karts, bumper boats and other entertainment options. Putt-N-Go closed several years ago.

The facility is scheduled to break ground soon with a planned August 2022 grand opening.

**Swingers** first launched in the United Kingdom in 2016 before coming to America in the summer of 2021 when it opened a location in Washington D.C. Now, the minigolf chain has announced that it will be opening its second U.S. location, this one in New York City.

**Swingers NoMad** will be located at the upcoming **Virgin Hotel** on Broadway in New York City. It will boast three nine-hole crazy-golf courses, six cocktail bars as well as street food from local vendors **Sauce Pizzeria**, **Miznon**, **Fonda** and **Mah Ze Dahr Bakery**.

Prior to the pandemic, Swingers locations reported more than 3,000 visitors a week, bringing in close to \$11 million in annual revenue per venue.



# Attendance slightly down for Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo

AT: B. Derek Shaw

bdshaw@amusementtoday.com

HOUSTON, Texas. — Although total attendance was down from the last full version in 2019, several days this year were in the top ten attendance of all time during the 90th **Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo (HLSR)**. Total 24-day attendance of all activities on the grounds, including the World's Championship Bar-B-Que Contest came in at 2,417,248.

"We experienced cold and rainy weather during the World's Championship Bar-B-Que Contest, however, during the 21-day run of the 2022 rodeo, we were fortunate to have great weather. Our fans and the Houston community were excited to welcome back the rodeo for its 90th anniversary," said **Chris Boleman**, president and CEO, HLSR.

This year's theme was "The Houston Tradition Since 1932." That moniker spanned advertising, signage and a #Since1932 monthly historical campaign on social media.

**Ray Cammack Shows, Inc. (RCS)** was the midway provider with 80 total rides, with 16 booked in. **Bishop Amusement Rides** brought seven, **Caprice Enterprises** three, **Deggeller Attractions** three, **Luehrs Ideal Rides** two and **Joy Rides** one. There was a well-balanced midway with super spectaculars, spectaculars, medium-size family and kiddie rides. RCS had 58 games and 34 food stands. In 20 days, RCS had 2.9 million riders on their rides.

Asked about the impact of COVID, RCS Vice President **Chris Lopez** said, "It had a definite impact. Two years without a rodeo was reflected by comments from volunteers, participants and others. It was nice to see them all back."

New rides on the carnival midway included Atlantis Funhouse (**Gosetto**), Dragon family coaster (**Kolmax**), Liberty Wheel (**Lamberink** 22-meter), Moonraker (**SDC**) and Winky the Whale (**New Hampton**). The most popular rides were La Grande XL (**Bussink** 50-meter observation wheel), Sky Ride (**Yan/Seatek**)



and Titan (**Fabbri** Booster).

RCS had new food offerings including bacon wrapped pork belly on a stick, donut chicken sandwich, crunchy flamin' hot pickles, hot **Cheetos** float drink, teriyaki chicken pineapple bowl and a watermelon **Dole Whip** taco.

When asked about working with the rodeo after a two-year lapse, Lopez said, "Our experience is always wonderful. It is so great to get back. [It was a] long awaited reunion with fair staff and the public."

This year, RCS is celebrating its 60th anniversary. This is the 28th time the Laveen, Arizona, company has played HLSR.

This year, RCS broke three records at the Houston rodeo. It had the largest opening Saturday in the history of the rodeo. The carnival awarded 100 semi-tractor trailer loads of stuffed bears and other plush prizes to game winners. Finally, in terms of travel mileage, RCS drove almost to the moon and back with nearly 300 loads transported from Phoenix (where the show is headquartered) to Houston and back. The 434,927 miles included rides, games, support equipment, bunk houses and other related gear.

Special promotions for the rodeo included a grounds season pass for \$35. Adult general admission to **NRG Park** was \$15, however for \$5 extra, guests could buy a rodeo ticket. Family Wednesdays provided free admission for seniors, 60 and over and children, 12 and under, until noon (it did not include the rodeo or concert admission.) Also, that same day, rides and games



Nighttime crowds (above) were strong at the 90th anniversary Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo. Always a popular ride at the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo was the 165-foot La Grande XL observation wheel from Bussink (inset). COURTESY STEFAN HINZ

were \$2 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., along with a \$2 food or drink item at select food stands in the Junction Carnival.

"Our advertising consisted of a mix of TV, radio, out of home, digital, social media and OTT/CTV. We continue to increase our mix of digital spending," said **Brittany Radar**, director, media relations and communications, HLSR. The fair's advertising budget exceeded \$1 million.

Entertainment included **Marshmello**, who had the highest paid attendance of any standard rodeo/concert performance this year. Other entertainers included **George Strait**, and special guest **Ashley McBryde**, **Chris Stapleton**, **Bun B's**

**H-Town Takeover**, **Parker McCollum** and **Jon Pardi**.

The livestock and horse show competitions drew 34,310 entries, while the junior auction sales totaled \$20,205,413 (unaudited preliminary totals). Eleven auction grand champion and reserve grand champion lots set rodeo records. The rodeo committed \$22,125,250 to the youth of Texas in the form of scholarships, junior show exhibitors, educational program grants and graduate assistantships.

"Opening our gates and welcoming fans back in 2022 to celebrate our 90th anniversary has truly been an amazing feeling. With a concert lineup spanning musical genres, agricultural

and educational exhibits, record-setting junior auctions and fun for the whole family throughout the rodeo grounds, guests from Houston and beyond came out to celebrate this milestone year. Thank you to our 35,000 volunteers, donors, sponsors, community partners and guests who support our charitable mission of supporting Texas youth and education," said Boleman.

Since its beginning in 1932, the rodeo has committed more than \$550 million to Texas youth and education.

The Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo comes around again February 28 – March 19, 2023

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# The hiatus is over: the Miami-Dade County Youth Fair is back

AT: B. Derek Shaw  
bdshaw@amusementtoday.com

MIAMI, Fla. — After a two-year absence from their spring timeframe, the 21-day **Miami-Dade County Youth Fair** took place to the delight of Dade countians and beyond. The 70th edition, held in **Tamiami Park**, was visited by 483,312 people, up from its last fair in November 2021 (rescheduled from March 2021 due to COVID). Last fall there were a total of 356,488 attendees.

"The clear sky and cool evenings were the perfect backdrop to one of the most financially successful fairs we have ever had," said **Eddie Cora**, fair president.

"While there were a few rainy days here and there, we ended up having some overall great weather for the Miami-Dade County Youth Fair which helped to draw in the crowds. What better way to enjoy the sun than spending the day at the fair?" said **Lynda Franc**, corporate marketing director, **North American Midway Entertainment (NAME)**.

The theme this year focused on the 70th anniversary of the fair.

NAME brought 87 rides of which 42 were kiddie. Booked in was **Jeremy Floyd (Cumberland Shows)** with three rides:



The Miami-Dade County Youth Fair is the largest nonprofit charity event in South Florida. NAME booked in Otterbacher Shows with its KMG Crazy Surf (below). It was one of the new rides seen this year on the 87-ride midway. COURTESY NAME/SCOOTER KOREK

Space Roller (**Mondial Fair Attractions** TopScan), carousel and a Jumbo elephant ride (**Kolmax Plus**) and **Otterbacher Shows** with its Crazy Surf (**KMG**). That was one of the new rides on the midway, along with **Raptor Run (SBF/Visa Group** mini Breakdance). Some of the most popular rides included the Polar Express (**Mack**), Euroslide (**SBF/Visa Group**) and Observation Wheel (**Bussink**).

"The wheel proved to be a hit with the guests. Thousands lined up for a chance to see Miami. From 150 feet up, a rider could see Biscayne Bay to the



east and the Everglades to the west," said Cora.

"The Miami-Dade County Fair has enjoyed a very close relationship with North American Midway Entertainment since their inception," said

Cora. "The entire company, from the owners to management to the ride operators have helped us build a guest center event. Each year we discuss how to improve the guest experience though rides, guest interaction and presentation. The 2022 [midway] was the best yet."

Franc was very upbeat

► See MIAMI, page 34



about the fair staff, stating, "It's always amazing working with the team at the Miami-Dade County Youth Fair. They are wonderful professionals, innovative, and always striving to offer the best fair for their community. It's great to work with such a positive team."

The fair had less of a marketing budget to work with this year, although they did heavy digital and radio advertising along with outdoor and cable ads. Special promotions included \$5 Thursdays (\$5 admission and \$5 select food items) and \$6 before 6pm admission Monday – Friday. There was also a \$20 Express Pass (limited amount each day only available on the grounds), and a Season Pass \$24 (online) or \$26 (at the fairgrounds). Free admission deals included one for kids five and under and adults 65 and older, every day, all day; Scouts' Day, for Boy and Girl Scouts wearing their uniform; **Florida International University** student and employee appreciation day with a current ID; and students

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At twilight or anytime, the 150-foot Bussink Observation Wheel enjoyed a robust queue. At the apex, riders get great views of Biscayne Bay and the Everglades.

COURTESY NAME/SCOOTER KOREK



# Georgia National Fair extends Reithoffer contract, hotel planned



Reithoffer Shows has signed a new five-year contract to provide the midway for the Georgia National Fair. The company has provided the midway attractions for the entirety of the fair's existence. In addition, the fair announced plans to build a hotel (left) on the fairground property. COURTESY GEORGIA NATIONAL FAIR

PERRY, Ga. — The Georgia National Fair is 33 years old and Reithoffer Shows has been the carnival of record for every year.

"We're excited to partner with Reithoffer Shows. We've signed a new five-year contract," said **Stephen Shimp**, the fair's executive director. "They've been with us since day one and we've grown greatly together. The fair-carnival relationship is one of the strongest in the country and we look forward to many successful years to come."

Shimp said the band **Kool and the Gang** will play the fair this fall with more acts to be announced.

A new hotel is planned on fairgrounds property attached to the Miller Murphy Howard Building, and a complete renovation of the buildings would be forthcoming, including HVAC systems.



Shimp further stated the state of Georgia strongly believes in the fairgrounds and what it has done for the economy and the programming it provides for citizens.

According to a news release, a total of 485,758 people attended the 32nd year of the event in 2021. In 2020, the fair was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, so there is no data available. In 2019, the fair had a record-breaking year with 565,533 people.

The Georgia National Fair will be held October 6-16, 2022.

•[georgianationalfair.com](http://georgianationalfair.com)



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The SBF/VISA group Euroslide was very popular with the younger set. COURTESY NAME/SCOOTER KOREK

## ►MIAMI

Continued from page 32

grades K-12 could get in free Monday – Friday with a ticket that was distributed to Miami-Dade County public, private, charter and home schools. Every Wednesday and opening day were free for first responders and military personnel.

Both the carnival operator and the fair were asked about COVID-19 challenges. “As always, we worked with the local authorities and kept on the pulse of local requirements for any COVID-19 mitigation needs,” said Franc. “While there were no specific requirements in place, we did encourage people who wanted to wear masks to do so. At the end of the day, we want people to be able to come out and have a good time – so whatever allows them to feel safe doing so, we certainly support!”

“The greatest challenge to putting on the 2022 Youth Fair was the uncertainty of COVID-19,” said Cora. “The latest variant had hit its low point making guests feel better about attending, but the next possible variant left a small cloud of doubt in the minds of some guests. What was comforting were the precautions we took to provide a safe family outing. The fairgrounds had over 600 locations for guests to wash and sanitize during their visit, as well as the cleaning teams making

sure the facilities were as inviting as possible.”

The favorite new food at this year’s fair was deep fried cheese flan bites. Also popular in an expanded food vendor area was churro s’mores. Daily parades returned to the fair for the first time since 2009. This year the fair offered a new sensory room designed for children with special needs.

Cora was asked what sets their fair apart from others. “The Miami-Dade County Fair is laid out so that all the components are mixed,” he said. “There is no independent side, no carnival side. Every ride, food location, game operation, etc, is dependent on the others around them for its success. It was the philosophy of **Darwin Fuchs** [fair president 1969 – 2004] that we needed everyone pulling in the same direction to provide the guest with the best possible experience. That philosophy is still at the heart of our fair today. We are one fair and one midway all here to serve our guest. It has worked for the past 70 years and I see no reason to change in the next 70.”

The Youth Fair is the largest nonprofit charity event in South Florida. It is dedicated to promoting education and agriculture while showcasing and rewarding youth achievement and providing quality family entertainment, all without taxpayer dollars.

The 2023 fair dates are March 16 – April 9 (except March 27–28 and April 3–4).

• [thefair.me/thefair](http://thefair.me/thefair)



## MIDWAYSCENE

AT: B. Derek Shaw

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The **Canadian National Exhibition (CNE)** leases its fair space from a 197-acre Exhibition Place, a publicly-owned site with multiple meeting and event facilities. The five-year contract with the venue and the city of Toronto are up for renewal, with negotiations set to commence immediately after the fair. It has been reported other interested parties vying for the CNE spot. Typically, renewal is a sure thing, however not necessarily this time, as other proposals are being considered.

“Like many organizations, attractions and events throughout the world, the past two years have been a challenge for the **CNE Association**,” said **Suzan Hall**, president of the CNEA, in a press release. “Our signature event, the CNE, had to be canceled in both 2020 and 2021, due to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic. As a result of these cancellations, our revenues have evaporated, our expenses were reduced, which resulted in layoffs of many full-time staff last year. Now is the time to stabilize our business environment,” said Hall.

In March, **Darrell Brown**, was named CEO of the CNE. A lawyer, by trade, Brown first became associated with the CNE as outside council in 2016. Right before the pandemic, Brown was named executive director, corporate support and legal services.

“Darrell Brown has been central to the stabilization of our organization, having secured substantial funding from both the **Government of Canada** and the **Province of Ontario** that has enabled the CNEA to survive,” Hall added.

Visitors to the **Florida State Fair** held in February may have noticed a significant amount of new pavement along with enhancements to existing paved areas throughout the fair grounds. “We had a one-time allocation of one million dollars from the Florida legislature. We were very blessed to utilize the funds for capital upgrades we desperately needed from a public safety standpoint. We had many people praise us on how great our grounds looked during the 2022 state fair, no doubt the new pavement was noticed,” said **Cheryl Flood**, CEO, Florida State Fair.

The 2023 edition takes place February 9-20, with **Wade Shows** holding the midway contract, usually booking in a half dozen other providers with anywhere from one to five rides.

For the third straight year, the **Brockton Fair**, has been canceled, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The eastern Massachusetts fair ran for 145 continuous

seasons, from 1874 through 2019.

“It is with sadness, we announce the cancellation of the 2022 Brockton Fair” was all that was posted on the fair’s website. This is the same wording that was used in 2020 and 2021.

The Brockton Fair usually runs in late June — a signature event for the area that even has its legendary gravelly-voiced “Soak the Bloke” clown, **Kenny Dickman**, featured in the short documentary film, *Dunk Tank Clowns*.

This year, the 141st **Maryland State Fair**, will operate a bit differently, with one more day and an additional weekend. Previously the fair ran for 12 days, late August through Labor Day Monday. Starting this year, the fair will run three long weekends (Thursday-Sunday), opening August 25 and concluding September 11, for a total of 13 operating days. The Timonium, Maryland, fair will be closed Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, except Labor Day Monday. “We did a sample of it last year and it worked out well,” said **Andy Cashman**, general manager. Previously the carnival provider, **Deggeller Attractions**, played York, Pennsylvania, starting the Friday after Labor Day. With that fair moving to a late July timeframe, it freed up the week to help facilitate the new schedule.

A handful of fairs across the country make use of a band organized for the event.

Currently, the **Erie County Agricultural Society**, Hamburg, New York, and sponsor of the **Erie County Fair** is recruiting students in grades 7 through 12 for brass, woodwind, precession and color guard positions to join the Erie County Fair Marching Band this summer. The band is an “all-star” group of the best from across Western New York.

“This is an excellent opportunity for students to continue developing their confidence and musical skills throughout the summer months,” said CEO and Fair Manager **Jessica Underberg** to *WGRZ-TV*.

The **Ohio State Fair** has the All-Ohio State Fair Band. The band was founded in 1925. The musicians rehearse over 60 pieces of concert music of various styles and genres as well as numerous marches. Throughout the run of The Ohio State Fair the band members perform nearly 90 concerts.

The **Calgary Stampede Foundation** showband was created in 1971 to serve as the musical ambassadors for the **Calgary Stampede**. The band is comprised of 140 dedicated community youth, ages 16-21, making over 100 appearances during the 10-day event. They have participated in four Rose Bowl Parades, most recently in 2019.



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# WATER PARKS & RECREATION

► Water Safari adds rental cabanas — page 38 / Royal Caribbean International expands destinations — page 40

## Polin supplies indoor waterslides for New Zealand recreation center

AT: Jeffrey Seifert  
jseifert@amusementtoday.com

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand — Construction is proceeding on the **Parakiore Recreation and Sport Centre**, which, when completed will be the largest aquatic and indoor recreation and leisure venue of its kind in New Zealand. Recently, installation of five eel-inspired water slides was taking place before the roof is installed on the building.

The 345,000-square-foot (32,000-square-meters) indoor sports and aquatics facility is being delivered by Crown company **Ōtākaro Limited** and will be operated by Christchurch City Council. New Zealand Crown companies are established and regulated by the country's government.

The slides, provided by **SwimPlex Aquatics**, the Australian partner of **Polin Waterparks**, range in height from 30 to 40 feet and are made up of around 800 pieces of fiberglass.

**John Bridgman**, Ōtākaro chief executive, said, "It took ten shipping containers to get all the sections of the slides here, so it's no surprise these are going to be the biggest and best indoor hydrosides in New Zealand. The trapdoor hydroslide, which sends riders hurtling



All five slides are colored black and silver (above) to resemble New Zealand longfin eels which are prevalent throughout the country. This artist rendition (below) shows how the front of the complex will look when it is complete. COURTESY SWIMPLEX AQUATICS, NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT

down at around 40 kilometres per hour [36 feet per second], will be a drawcard for the central city."

SwimPlex Aquatics / Polin Australia and New Zealand project manager, **Murray Booth**, says the installation process is incredibly complex.

"In some places there are seven sections of hydroslide between the ground and the sky because of the way they exit, twist, drop, then re-enter Parakiore. It's challenging work, but we're lucky we get to build something that is solely being put here to bring joy into people's lives."

Council's Head of Recreation, **Nigel Cox**, says the slides have been designed to resemble silver-bellied longfin eels, which are endemic to New Zealand. All of the slides are silver and black with translucent gray patterns and stripes.

"This unique and authentic color scheme gives the hydrosides added meaning and will make the Saint Asaph Street entrance to Parakiore a memorable sight," said Cox.

On the largest slide, guests will board two-person rafts and drop into a sphere section where they will oscillate back and forth



before exiting into a tube that carries them through the remainder of the slide. A looping rocket body slide starts with a floor-drop capsule and guests will plunge

nearly 25 feet through a clear section before the slide levels out into a sidewinder element. These two attractions start at the 40-foot platform.

Three more body slides take off from the lower 30-foot platform and are designed to appeal to everyone with a fast slide, medium and slower slide. All three incorporate translucent sections and translucent stripes and patterns. As an added bonus, queuing for the platform is right next to the clear section of the drop-capsule slide which starts 10 feet above them, so those waiting in line will be able to see the riders plunging through slide.



Installation of the slides requires precision crane work as in some areas there are as many as seven layers of fiberglass and the sections go in and out of the building. COURTESY ŌTŌKARO LIMITED



## Michigan's Splash Universe indoor waterpark to reopen

DUNDEE, Mich. — **Splash Universe** indoor waterpark is planning to finally reopen. The venue was forced to close during the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

New management purchased the park during a March auction. The purchasers have announced that Splash Universe will reopen in May or June, but an exact date has not been announced. Management urged the public to follow Splash Universe's social media accounts for updates.

Though company officials announced several times that the park would reopen — both in the summer of 2021 and in November of 2021 — it has remained shuttered even as most other businesses have resumed operations.

Splash Universe was forced to close for a prolonged period once before. After tornadoes damaged the building and injured 11 people in June of 2010, Splash Universe had to close for repairs. After the repairs, the park reopened with a ribbon cutting in March 2011.

•[splash-universe.com](https://www.splash-universe.com)



COURTESY  
SPLASH UNIVERSE

## Soaky Mountain Waterpark announces upgrades, plans for the 2022 season



SEVIERVILLE, Tenn. — Soaky Mountain Waterpark announced a May 14 opening date for the upcoming 2022 season. The waterpark's new watercoaster, The Edge is scheduled to open in mid-June. The Edge is a dueling watercoaster, reaching more than 700 feet in length. The attraction is described as a mix between WhiteWater's Master Blaster and Boomerango. In addition to the new ride, the park has implemented more cabanas, more seating and plans for new food trucks. The facility will once again be offering alcohol sales after voluntarily suspending them in the summer of 2021 following a series of alcohol-related incidents including a deadly shooting. A public relations representative for Soaky Mountain stated that alcohol sales will end sometime before closing time. The park will be asking anyone who consumes alcohol to do so responsibly and plans to stop serving patrons two hours before the park closes.

COURTESY SOAKY MOUNTAIN WATERPARK

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Eight new cabanas have been constructed at New York's Water Safari Resort for the 2022 Summer Season.  
COURTESY ENCHANTED FOREST WATER SAFARI RESORT

## Water Safari adding more rental cabanas for guests

OLD FORGE, N.Y. — **Enchanted Forest Water Safari** is one of New York's largest water theme parks with more than 50 rides and attractions, including 33 heated water rides. Eight new cabanas have been constructed at the park for the 2022 summer season. The private cabanas enable guests who rent them to relax in luxury.

"Rental of the cabanas often sell out, so the park has added the extra locations to accommodate more guests," said **Katie Wojdyla**, director of marketing for Enchanted Forest Water Safari Resort. "The Cabanas are available on a first come, first served basis." The park encourages its guests to rent cabanas early in order to avoid disappointment.

The private cabanas enable guests who rent them to relax in luxury with all the cabana rentals including room for up to eight guests (not including 2 years old and under). Up to two additional guests can be added for \$10 each (with a 10 guest maximum, for those guests age 3 and up).

The park offers two principal levels of cabana rentals. The standard cabana pricing includes: A personal cabana for the day with table, chairs, and lounge chairs; bottled waters in a souvenir bucket with ice; a lockable storage cabinet; the ability to pre-order food online with a guest's reservation or at check-in for delivery to the guest's cabana. Premium cabana rentals include: all of the aforementioned, plus a \$20 food and beverage credit for onsite ordering from the cabana attendant.

Enchanted Forest Water Safari prides itself on focusing on family fun. In addition to the water park attractions and cabanas, the park also features classic amusement rides, fun food, games, shops, storybook themed characters and a family circus show.

• [watersafari.com](http://watersafari.com)



Enchanted Forest Water Safari's cabanas have proven extremely popular, often selling out. The private rentals offer multiple amenities for groups and families with as many as 10 people.  
COURTESY ENCHANTED FOREST WATER SAFARI RESORT



## NEWS SPLASH

AT: Jeffrey L. Seifert  
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After 30 years of thrilling guests, the dragon slide at **DragonLand Water Park** in Pekin, Illinois, is being retired.

"It pretty much reached the end of life by the end of the season last year," explained Pekin Park District Recreation Director **Shawn Powers**.

The slide began service when the park opened in 1992. Since then, the steel frame that supports the slide has reached a point where it is corroded beyond repair. The fiberglass slide itself was also showing signs of wear.

The decision was made to remove the slide now, so that the site can be prepped for a replacement attraction in 2023. The park has yet to release details of what the new attraction will be.

The **Kohl's Corporation**, which is based in Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin, has donated \$100,000 for the development of a splash pad. The new splash pad, to be located at Village Park, will include water spray features, fountains and LED lights.

"We are grateful for Kohl's leadership and commitment to their hometown community. Village Park is on track to be one of most celebrated public spaces in Menomonee Falls and the region," said **Mark Fitzgerald**, village manager of Menomonee Falls.

**Great Wolf Lodge Pocono Mountains** in Scotrun, Pennsylvania, is undergoing a \$100 million renovation and expansion project.

The lodge recently completed updating all 401 of its rooms with new beds, flooring and furniture to reflect a modern take on its Northwoods theme.

Now, it is building brand new multi-bedroom private villas, renovating its grand lobby and toddler pool, and adding a new full-service dining concept.

Ground breaking for the new addition was held on March 15 with the ceremonial throwing of dirt by officials in hard hats with wolf ears.

Under construction are 30, 1,500-square-foot Woodland Villas. Each villa will feature three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a spacious and comfortable living area, a fully equipped kitchenette and private outdoor living space with incredible nature views. The villas were designed to accommodate larger, multi-generational families looking for their own, quiet oasis, or visitors looking for a home-away-from-home while enjoying a longer, extended stay in the Pocono Mountains.

The Woodland Villas, designed specifi-

cally for the Pocono Mountains resort, will also feature an exclusive check-in area with a cozy lounge where families can partake in some games, crafts or just relax. The expected opening date is summer 2023.

The lodge, built in 2005, was the sixth location for **Great Wolf Resorts**, following the lodge in Williamsburg, Virginia, which opened the same year.

Ground breaking on a new **TPA Aquatic Center** took place on April 1, 2022, in Frankfort, Indiana. The **Frankfort Pool** at TPA park had fallen into disrepair and had been closed for the last years.

Following input from the local community, as well as a feasibility study, it was decided to build a \$10.8 million aquatic center with a lazy river, slides and a kiddie pool. The project will be paid for by the redevelopment commission, income tax revenue and **American Rescue Plan Act** funding.

The goal is to have the new aquatic center ready to open in time for the 2023 Memorial Day weekend.

The city of Loveland, Colorado, could become home to a new Rocky Mountain-themed water park resort. Proposals have come and gone over the last several years, however, in March, developer **Martin Lind** stepped in with a plan to build a \$300 million **Rocky Mountain Grand Resort and Conference Center**.

Lind indicated he would need the city of Loveland to provide \$20 million in infrastructure improvements and has requested sales tax and lodging tax share-backs from the city.

**Amazon** has expressed an interest in building a fulfillment center in the same area, and it too would require road improvement and upgrades to utilities.

If the city is unwilling to pay the costs for improvements, Lind indicated there are at least two other communities interested in the project.

Current plans show a hotel with 390 rooms and suites, a 69,000-square-foot conference center, and an 85,000-square-foot water park which would include 11 waterslides, multiple attractions, cabanas, party space, and multiple restaurants, including a rooftop restaurant.

The city of Loveland had been working with the state's Regional Tourism Authority Act for the last seven years but that has gotten nowhere.

"If it doesn't work for Loveland we are respectful of that," said Lind. "I'm confident we will build this somewhere north of Denver."





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# Royal Caribbean International expands its exclusive destinations

AT: Jeffrey Seifert  
jseifert@amusementtoday.com

COCOCAY, The Bahamas — In 2019, **Royal Caribbean International (RCI)** transformed its sleepy Little Stirrup Cay Island, into **Perfect Day at CocoCay** by adding one of the largest water parks in the Caribbean, along with private clubs, lagoons, beaches, eateries and a variety of activities.

The installation of a massive pier also meant that even the largest cruise ships in the world, RCI's exclusive *Oasis*-class ships, could dock right at the island. The pier is designed to handle multiple ships, so potentially more than 10,000 people could disembark at the same time.

The cay has proven extremely popular with guests, and RCI has been making plans to add a major addition to its private Bahamian island. The last expansion was the opening of the CoCo Beach Club in early 2020.

During the line's third-quarter business update,

Royal Caribbean CEO **Michael Bayley** revealed that after pausing destination projects during the pandemic, the line is now ready to reengage all of those plans.

The most popular is likely to be the addition of a new area on CocoCay, which Bayley said was "leading the charge in terms of demand and premium for the ships that are operating out of South Florida and New York."

The new area is called **Hideaway Beach**. It is described as an adults-only experience, but no other details were released.

"It will allow us to increase our capacity by approximately 3,000 people a day in late '22, which is obviously going to help improve our overall profitability and drive more revenue, both ticket and onboard," Bayley said.

Originally, it was announced that the new area would be open mid to late 2022, but RCI is now stating mid to late 2023. By March,



land on the north side of the island had been cleared and construction was just starting.

"We have other projects that we've now started to reengage with," Bayley said. "I think our aspirations never really moved away. We just had to press pause."

Among those projects in the works is the development of **Perfect Day at Lelepa**, a small private island in the South Pacific that would serve as a stop for cruises out of Australia. While it shares the same name, the Lelepa development will not include a water park and does not appear to even have a pool (the company has been vague on its plans). Instead, it will be built around the natural ecological beauty of the island and offer more subdued activities

such as snorkeling; stand-up paddleboarding; and an opportunity to appreciate the ancient culture, history, traditions and cuisine unique to that area of the world.

Other planned projects include **Royal Beach Clubs** in Nassau and Antigua. RCI cruises frequently stop at Nassau, which has nice beaches and interesting shops, but many seasoned cruisers who have been there before choose not to get off the ship. The Royal Beach Club master plan includes a 13-acre location with dining pavilions, pools, splash pads, beach bars and cabanas to give guests a private retreat on the island and entice even experienced travelers to disembark. A similar beach club in Antigua will have private cabanas and a pool with a

swim-up bar, complemented by locally inspired amenities. Guests in Antigua can enjoy island-style barbecues, live music, jet skis, paddle boarding, snorkeling, and a family splash pad. RCI is still in negotiation with the government of Nassau but is ready to begin development once plans are approved. The Antigua location is well underway and set to make its debut in November when *Symphony of the Seas* makes its call as the first *Oasis*-class ship to ever visit the island.

With so many cruise lines sailing the Bahamas and the Caribbean and each competing for a limited amount of tourist dollars, it is imperative to offer something unique to passengers. Port calls to exclusive cays and beaches help to make a particular cruise more attractive to both new and repeat guests. Cruise lines like RCI are investing millions to make their exclusionary swaths of land more appealing.





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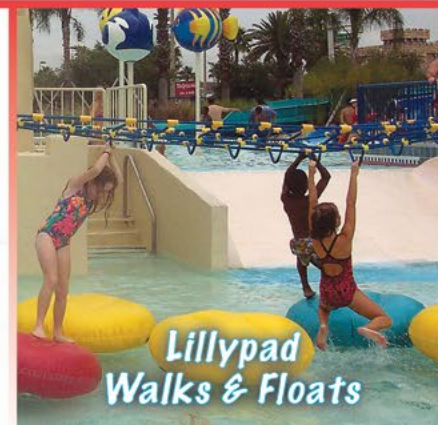


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# BUSINESS & NEWSMAKERS

► Blackpool Pleasure Beach offers special events — page 47 / 2022 What's New Guide — pages 49-53

## Six Flags CEO Selim Bassoul talks with *Amusement Today*

AT: Tim Baldwin

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ARLINGTON, Texas — With a long career in other fields, **Selim Bassoul** is a hands-on guy. That approach has carried into his new role as CEO of **Six Flags**. Having served as chairman of the board for a brief time, he was voted in as the new CEO of the company last fall. In a very short time, the beginnings of change have been dramatic.

In 2017, a *Wall Street Journal* interview with Bassoul surprised his coworkers and the industry. During the interview, Bassoul confided that he ran the kitchen-supply **Middleby Corporation** while having dyslexia and ADHD, but it had not been a barrier to his success. Today, he is also turning heads in his new role with some bold initiatives within the amusement industry.

"Attendance is not the driver. If you look at every quarter, analysts and investors have been traditionally mostly concerned about attendance. How many people showed up at the park?" Bassoul said in disagreement. "It should be about 'yields.' If you have tons of people show up at the park and don't spend a penny, it doesn't mean anything. Yields change the industry."

"Action fueled with emotion" is a formula Bassoul embraces. "That's what Six Flags should

be." Bassoul agrees that in the past, the emphasis on action — thrill rides — has been predominant within Six Flags. He feels the emotional connection needs to be bolstered. Giving a nod to **Walt Disney**, Bassoul knows the value of emotion and storytelling.

"Not everyone likes to ride the roller coaster," he said. "But just watching the roller coaster as it comes in and out gives you a great feeling of exhilaration."

Bassoul grew up in Lebanon, a country devoid of amusement parks, according to him. Memories of his first visit to **Tuileries Gardens** in Paris resonate with him. Children would run and chase sailboats racing in a large basin within the park.

"It was exciting and emotional for me to watch those sailboats and children and parents relaxing on benches. I want to create that same emotion," he said.

So why Six Flags? What brought a renowned CEO to the theme park industry?

"First, it is an iconic brand. I have very fond memories of taking my kids to Six Flags when they were young," he tells *Amusement Today*. "I remember when we drove home that they would beg me to come back."

A father of seven kids, Bassoul recently took his youngest (six years old) for her first visit to a theme park during spring break. When



Not content to just confirm his management team were pitching in, Bassoul took up brush and roller to help prepare Six Flags Over Texas for spring break (below left). Being hands-on, Bassoul was seen in the kitchens observing and preparing food for spring break crowds (below right). AT/TIM BALDWIN; COURTESY SIX FLAGS



she awoke the next day, her first comment was "Can we go back?" This is the feeling Bassoul hopes to bring to the forefront. "We need to create that desire to return."

He feels the major person making the decision to come to the park is the "driver," which in most cases is the mom. A goal of seeing more strollers in parks he feels is a good thing.

He noted that the Six

Flags brand has lost its way and is confident the chain can regain its full potential. Some of his reimagining comes from giving the autonomy back to the parks rather than the many layers stacked at the corporate level.

Bassoul's strategy is to elevate the product — in all areas — and in so doing can improve the experience to where the customer is willing to pay more.

"Our customer base has to change. It has to move up with us," he said.

Six objectives are emphasized under his leadership:

- Improve and Elevate Guest Experience
- Create Fun through Employee Friendliness
- Park cleanliness
- Better Quality Food

► See BASSOUL, page 45



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## ►BASSOUL

Continued from page 44

- More Guest Amenities
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"I think a park visit should be an escape from your daily grind," Bassoul believes. "From the minute I step into the park, I want vibes." For kids, he wants to capitalize more on the IP of Looney Tunes and DC Universe to make emotional connections.

A greater emphasis is being placed on landscaping and beautification. He feels the parks have become too much "cement and steel."

Award-winning master chefs have been brought on board to enhance the quality of the food. Bassoul knew he wanted this component to improve. It wasn't just an idea to convey from his desk. He was found working in the **Six Flags Over Texas** kitchens during spring break to get that firsthand experience. In so doing, he would inspire and encourage the seasonal staff to reach their best and thanked them for doing a good job.

"Food service is a huge part of our business," Bassoul noted. "And it has never been a priority. The thinking is: 'You're captive. You're going to have to eat.' Today I am saying, 'no.' I want people to want to come back because the food is tasty, fresh and hot. Fair food does not have to

be bland. You can have a delicious burger, a crispy chicken tender and a fresh handmade salad in an amusement park."

Entertainment is something under review. Bassoul wants top-tier offerings. "We're not going to have so-so shows," he said. "I don't need 10 shows that are mediocre. I want the best talent." Festivals are also on the radar.

Bassoul feels Middleby and Six Flags are similar as they are both guest driven. He feels the theme parks have a culture about them.

"The purpose of our job is very big to me," Bassoul said. "During my time at Middleby, 80 percent of the organization was blue collar — they ran factories and produced equipment. Over the years, I realized my best-performing employees were female. It's difficult to get females to work in a manufacturing environment. We hired many, but they started leaving shortly thereafter.

"Wondering why, we ultimately got to the bottom of it. We realigned our compensation based on merits, not on gender and seniority. We studied the work environment and made multiple improvements, including the quality of our restroom and breakroom areas. Our bathrooms at the factory were dirty. We got rid of nighttime janitorial service and brought in restroom attendants. Today at Middleby, the majority of frontline

workers are female. We created an opportunity for single mothers to come get a dignified job. Today [at Six Flags] we have 43,000 seasonal workers. We have an obligation to create opportunities for both our seasonal and full-time workers. We want to create skillsets for them to prosper, whether they stay with us or leave."

Throughput and consistency in restaurants are things he finds essential to instill.

"One of the largest opportunities are in food service. We want to train our employees to one day be able to run their own restaurant, to earn a decent wage and to have a dignified life. We are first and foremost a purpose-driven organization."

He has noticed how many of the company's parks are located in thriving areas.

"Our parks have become phenomenally positioned within our communities," Bassoul told *AT*. "My message is how do we continue to cater to the families around us, to moms with strollers, to the growing Hispanic community and to the grandparents?"

When 2022 is in the rearview mirror, what will excite Bassoul the most?

"Three things: 1) having delivered on the emotion factor, 2) measured how many people are coming back and 3) to reduce our debt."



Universal Orlando has pledged 20 acres (above) and Walt Disney World has pledged 80 acres (below) to address Orlando's critical need for affordable housing. COURTESY UNIVERSAL ORLANDO RESORT, WALT DISNEY WORLD



## Universal, Disney plan to build affordable housing

ORLANDO — Two of Orlando's major theme park operators have announced a new approach aimed at helping address the shortage of affordable housing in Orlando. **Universal Orlando's** Housing for Tomorrow initiative pledges 20 acres that will be developed into affordable housing by **Wendover Housing Partners**. In addition, **Walt Disney World Resort** has earmarked nearly 80 acres of its land for a new affordable housing development in southwest Orange County, Florida.

Universal's development plan provided the first look at the site plan, elevations and key elements of the community, which has been named **Catchlight Crossings**. It was submitted to the Orange County Planning and Development department in March as the next step in moving the initiative forward.

Housing for Tomorrow is Universal's first-of-its-kind approach designed to help create an innovative solution to address Orlando's critical need for affordable housing by creating inclusive, economically diverse housing options. Universal pledged 20 acres of prime land in the heart of Orlando's tourist corridor to be used for 1,000 units of affordable/mixed-income housing.

Disney's development — which is expected to include more than 1,300 units — will be constructed by a third-party affordable housing developer. It will offer Central Florida residents a variety of home choices that are affordable and attainable, in a great part of town near schools and the new and expanding **Flamingo Crossings Town Center** retail and dining complex. The development will be available for qualifying applicants in our region, including Disney cast members.

"We are invested in working together with our community to solve complex issues," said **Jeff Vahle**, president of Walt Disney World Resort. "The lack of affordable housing is affecting many people across our country, including right here in Central Florida. With this initiative, we're lending a hand to make a real and meaningful impact in our community by tapping into the best of our company's strengths."



Bassoul stands before Six Flags Over Texas' upcoming Aquaman Power Wave. COURTESY SIX FLAGS

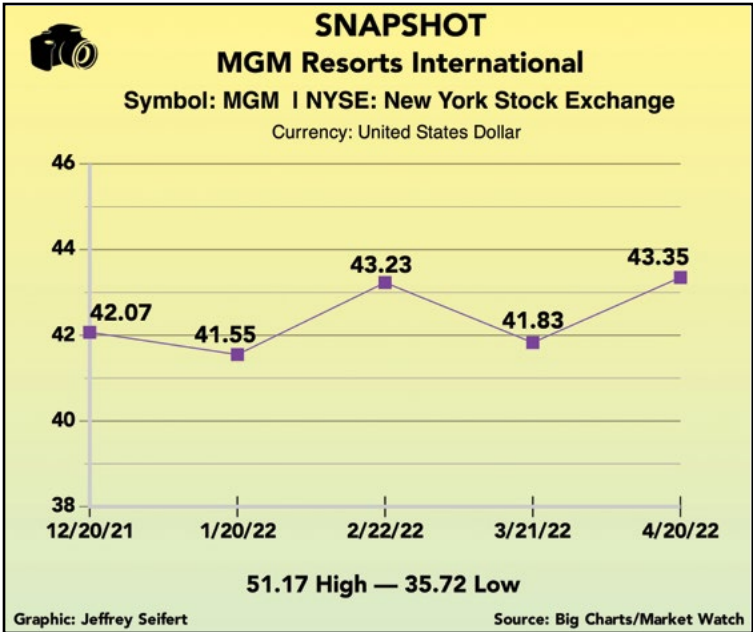


MARKET WATCH

COMPANY	SYMBOL	MARKET	PRICE 4/20/22	HIGH 52-Week	LOW 52-Week
The Blackstone Group	BX	NYSE	120.39	149.78	81.67
Cedar Fair, L.P.	FUN	NYSE	55.89	62.56	39.15
Comcast Corp./NBCUniversal Media	CMCSA	NASDAQ	47.40	61.80	44.27
The Walt Disney Company	DIS	NYSE	124.57	189.22	121.44
EPR Properties	EPR	NYSE	55.35	56.29	41.14
Fuji Kyoko Co., Ltd.	JP:9010	TYO	4160.00	5650.00	3650.00
Haichang Holdings Ltd.	HK:2255	SEHK	5.24	5.58	0.50
Leofoo Development Co.	TW:2705	TSEC	17.25	21.20	14.50
MGM Resorts International	MGM	NYSE	43.35	51.17	35.72
Royal Caribbean Cruises, Ltd.	RCL	NYSE	84.35	98.27	61.45
Sansei Technologies, Inc.	JP:6357	TYO	749.00	922.00	702.00
SeaWorld Entertainment, Inc.	SEAS	NYSE	74.40	76.57	41.94
Six Flags Entertainment Co.	SIX	NYSE	42.76	50.56	35.75
Tivoli A/S	DK:TIV	CSE	894.00	944.00	766.00

STOCK PRICES ABOVE ARE GENERALLY QUOTED IN THE FOREIGN CURRENCY IN WHICH THE COMPANY IS LOCATED  
\*Dubai Parks and Resorts halted trading on the Dubai Financial Market due to an acquisition by Meraas Leisure and Entertainment LLC earlier this year.

Worldwide Markets: **ASX**, Australian Securities Exchange; **CSE**, Copenhagen Stock Exchange; **LSE**, London Stock Exchange; **NYSE**, New York Stock Exchange; **NASDAQ**, National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations; **SEHK**, Hong Kong Stock Exchange; **SZSE**, Shenzhen Stock Exchange; **TSEC**, Taiwan Stock Exchange, Corp.; **TYO/TSE**, Tokyo Stock Exchange  
—SOURCES: Bloomberg.com; Wall Street Journal



DIESEL PRICES		
Region (U.S.)	As of 4/18/22	Change from 1 year ago
East Coast	\$5.151	\$2.055
Midwest	\$4.921	\$1.867
Gulf Coast	\$4.855	\$1.932
Mountain	\$5.094	\$1.862
West Coast	\$5.278	\$2.030
California	\$6.250	\$2.273

CURRENCY	
On 4/21/22 \$1 USD =	
0.9230	EURO
0.7665	GBP (British Pound)
128.19	JPY (Japanese Yen)
0.9491	CHF (Swiss Franc)
1.3455	AUD (Australian Dollar)
1.2538	CAD (Canadian Dollar)

BUSINESS WATCH

RWS acquires The Experience Department

NEW YORK, N.Y. — **RWS Entertainment Group** (RWS) announced the acquisition of **The Experience Department**, (TED). This announcement follows RWS’s November 2021 acquisition of international attraction design firm **JRA** and expands the group’s expertise to include 360-degree experience design, audio visual solutions, fitness and wellbeing programs, custom-made retail products, studio recording and visual media design. TED services will also expand to include new Halloween and seasonal holiday experiences complete with design, fabrication and installation.

“The synergy between TED and RWS Entertainment Group opens opportunities for our team and our clients to achieve the ultimate immersive experiences on land and at sea,” said RWS Founder and Chief Executive Officer, **Ryan Stana**. “Our companies have an outstanding record of delivering powerful projects. Together with other RWS companies including JRA and **Binder Casting**, the possibilities are endless. Each client will benefit from the strength of the entire international team, elevating the guest experience while maximizing revenue.”

British based with offices in four countries and a 20-year history, TED delivers full-service entertainment and programming for theater, cruise, resort and leisure destinations.

“At our core, we are creative innovative thinkers; we push the experience to the next level,” said **Robin Breese-Davies**, who will continue to lead TED’s exponential growth as part of RWS Entertainment Group. “Our connected approach and 360-degree design experience truly sets us apart, and we’re excited to continue designing and defining what’s next in guest experience.”

Dynamic Tech announces private financing

TORONTO — **Dynamic Technologies Group Inc.** announced that it intends to complete a non-brokered private placement financing of 16,000,000 units at a price of CDN \$0.3125 per unit for gross proceeds to the company of CDN \$5,000,000 at an exchange rate of CDN \$1.25 for each USD \$1.00 (the “offering”).

Each unit will consist of one common share in the capital of the company and one common share purchase warrant. Each warrant will entitle the holder to one additional common share for a period of 24 months from the date of issuance at an exercise price of \$0.50 and thereafter until expiring 36 months from the date of issuance at an exercise price of \$0.75.

Closing of the offering is subject to customary conditions, including receipt of all regulatory approvals. The Offering will close in multiple tranches the first of which closed on April 14, 2022. Dynamic Technologies Group intends to use the proceeds of the offering for working capital.

Universal Hollywood rolls out electric trams

UNIVERSAL CITY, Calif. — On April 14, **Universal Studios Hollywood** debuted the first four electric trams in its fleet of 21 Studio Tour trams.

“I am extremely proud of this innovative undertaking and our commitment to creating a zero-emissions Studio Tour fleet in collaboration with our parent company and local partners,” said **Scott Strobl**, executive vice president and general manager, Universal Studios Hollywood. “This is just one of many steps we are taking to transform our business in line with Comcast NBCUniversal’s carbon neutral goal.”

The conversion to electric trams was spearheaded in 2017 by visionaries within the Universal Studios Hollywood technical services department.





Europa-Park's Mack family are excited to donate an original Eurosat coaster train to the NRCMA. COURTESY EUROPA-PARK

## Mack family donates Eurosat coaster train to the NRCMA

PLAINVIEW, Texas. — For more than 28 years, the seven trains of the Eurosat roller coaster were on the move at **Europa-Park**, carrying more than 80 million passengers from 1989 until November 5, 2017. In the ten months that followed, the popular coaster inside the futuristic silver sphere — which was developed by Europa-Park's founding father **Franz Mack** — was completely revised and now offers a significantly improved riding experience thanks to a new track system, technical progress and updated coaster trains manufactured by **Mack Rides**.

One of these retired trains is now getting a new home, as the Mack family has donated it to the **National Roller Coaster Museum and Archives (NRCMA)** in Planview, Texas. The donated train vehicles have been restored to assure they look their best.

"My father Franz Mack invented and engineered Eurosat with the help of self-made models," said Europa-Park owner **Roland Mack**. "He immersed himself in the development of this ride for months. To see one of the Eurosat trains now exhibited in the National Roller Coaster Museum — showing visitors a piece of history of Europa-Park — is a special honor and a great remembrance of my father."

Since 2009, the museum has exhibited numerous collector's items such as ride vehicles, designs and specialist literature as a reminder of the success story of rollercoasters. This is the largest historical collection of its kind, which is now being expanded to include its first exhibit from Europa-Park and Mack Rides.

"We are honored to begin a relationship with Mack Rides and Europa-Park," commented **Jeff Novotny**, NRCMA chairman. "The Mack family is a foundational cornerstone of our entire industry. Their ride designs, theming and attention to detail have made Europa-Park a benchmark for the world. We jumped at the opportunity to add a legendary Eurosat roller coaster train from Europa Park to our collection. It will help us tell a more global story of the industry through the years."

•rollercoastermuseum.org



The Eurosat coaster is part of the Mack family heritage, with the original ride and its trains engineered by Europa-Park's founding father Franz Mack. COURTESY EUROPA-PARK

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## OBITUARY

## Mickey Ollson, founder Wildlife World Zoo, passes

SURPRISE, Ariz. — A home-grown business pioneer, philanthropist, leader, and educator, Mickey Ollson passed away peacefully on January 9, 2022, surrounded by his loved ones at the age of 80.



Ollson

Ollson was the owner and founder of Wildlife World Zoo.

He was born and lived his entire life in Arizona's west valley, where he eventually founded the zoo and opened its doors to millions of visitors over the past 38 years.

A statement from the Wildlife World Zoo offered: "Mickey Ollson was a dreamer. His vision and hard work entertained and educated millions of people through the Wildlife World Zoo. He was born and raised in the west valley, and he leaves an indelible mark there for future generations. He gave back to his community. He was an inspiration to his family and everyone who knew him."

As a child, Ollson had a dream that one day he would open his own zoo. Once commenting, "I had chicken pox, so I couldn't go to school for a couple weeks." To pass the time, he drew a map of his future zoo, which ended up looking amazingly like the early era Wildlife World Zoo he eventually built.

But in his young adulthood, Ollson chose a different career path. He graduated from North High in 1959 and earned a bachelor's degree in business with a minor in journalism and a master's in marketing from Arizona State University.

After graduation he started teaching at Alhambra High School. In his mid-40's, Ollson retired from teaching, risked all the money he'd saved over his lifetime and opened Wildlife World Zoo.

For nearly four decades, Ollson was onsite at the zoo every day.

The **Walt Disney Company** has named **Kristina Schake** as executive vice president, global communications, reporting to Chief Corporate Affairs Officer **Geoff Morrell**. She will be responsible for the company's worldwide communications strategy and operations, while also serving as lead spokesperson.

Schake has spent three decades working at the nexus of government, media, business, entertainment and technology. Most recently, she was appointed by President **Joe Biden** to lead the nationwide COVID-19 vaccine education campaign and was previously global communications director for **Instagram**. Schake was deputy communications director for **Hillary Clinton's** 2016 presidential campaign and served in the **Barrack Obama's** administration as special assistant to the president and communications director to the first lady.

"I could not be more pleased to welcome Kristina to Disney and to have her leading communications for the company," Morrell said. "Her experience in the public and private sectors, in political and corporate campaigns, make her ideally suited for this important role and to help me integrate communications with government relations, public policy, and corporate social responsibility into a new Corporate Affairs team."

**Six Flags Over Texas** announced **Sharon Mayo Parker** as the park's new general manager. The first female African American general manager in Six Flags history, Parker was a longtime anchor for KWTX-TV in Waco, Texas.

"I am humbled and excited to continue my journey with Six Flags Over Texas as General Manager," said Parker. "Being the first Black female in this role is something I do not take lightly — and my hope is that my experience has paved the way for future minority leaders. As we continue to focus on park enhancements, our priority will be providing an amazing guest experience this season and beyond."

Parker joined Six Flags in 2007 as communications manager and has continued to climb the ladder. She has worked at Six Flags Over Texas for more than 15 years, most recently occupying the role of director of marketing, sales and entertainment.

**San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance** announced that **Erika Kohler** will take over as the executive director of the 100-acre **San Diego Zoo**. Kohler has been a member of the organization since 2015, when she was hired as the zoo's director of operations — bringing nearly two decades of experience from her time with the Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago. She has served as the San Diego Zoo's interim executive director since November 2021.

"Erika Kohler has been an invaluable part of the San Diego Zoo's recent success while she worked as a deputy director of operations, and most recently as interim executive director," said **Paul A. Baribault**, president and chief executive officer of San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance. "She makes everyone on her team better and is committed to our mission. Erika has proven to be a strong leader during times of change with her considerate and thoughtful approach."

During the last seven years, Kohler provided guidance through several projects, ranging from infrastructure improvements, to the zoo's centennial celebration in 2016. She was also critical in managing the zoo's unprecedented closures in 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the opening of new habitats, including Africa Rocks in 2017,



Schake



Parker



Kohler

## ON THE MOVE

Komodo Kingdom and the Hummingbird Habitat in 2021 and the Denny Sanford Wildlife Explorers Basecamp that opened March 2022.

**Fun Spot America Theme Parks** recently named **David Heaton** as senior vice president of operations. He will work closely with CEO **John Arie Jr.**

"I'm thrilled to be welcoming David to Fun Spot America," said Arie. "We are excited to add another seasoned expert to our leadership team and for our entire system to benefit from his impressive experience and operational expertise."

Heaton brings more than two decades of leadership and experience leading growth and transformation within the theme park industry. Beginning his career in the amusement industry in 1997, he has worked for **SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment** for more than 23 years in different leadership roles, and most recently at **Universal Parks and Resorts**. His expertise spans all areas of operations, strategic planning, P&L management, organizational development, quality and safety.

**Altitude Trampoline Park** announced that it has named **Amy Phillips** to the role of president. Promoted to co-lead the company's strategic franchising phase with CEO **Mike Rotondo**, a key focus for Phillips will be expanding the company's leadership and corporate support team as the brand prioritizes growing its presence. Additionally, her oversight will continue to include strategic marketing, brand messaging and franchise development, while leading the charge on innovations in digital and in-park experiences, guest offerings and vendor partnerships. Phillips will retain her chief marketing officer title as well.

"Over the years, I've had the chance to hone in on the core of what makes the family entertainment industry so exhilarating for guests across the country," said Phillips, who has more than 20 years of experience working with international family entertainment brands including **Pepsi, Dave & Buster's, Main Event Entertainment** and **Drive Shack**.

Phillips joined Altitude Trampoline Park in 2020 and quickly rose through the ranks to chief marketing officer. Her work has resulted in overarching, company changing initiatives like a partnership with the **American Heart Association** as well as a call center to streamline event and party booking. Her marketing and brand activation prowess earned her national recognition as the **American Marketing Association's** "Marketer of the Year" in 2012.

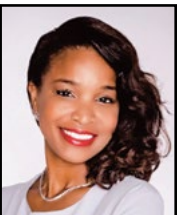
Orlando-based themed entertainment services firm **Brilliant Creative Fabrication** has named **Allen Boerger** as its new CEO after being acquired by Ohio-based design-build firm **Roto Group LLC** in November 2021.

Boerger co-founded Roto Group in 2004. He brings more than 25 years of experience in entertainment design to Brilliant Creative Fabrication. He will replace Brilliant CEO **David Piper**, who has taken on a new role as principal. In addition, **Leo English**, the vice president of customer experience with Brilliant, will take on the title of principal.

"Allen's experience working across disciplines from planning and design to media and engineering makes him the perfect fit to lead Brilliant into its next chapter," said Piper in a prepared statement. "His expertise will also enable Brilliant and Roto to work seamlessly together as we expand our design-build and production offerings to projects worldwide."



Heaton



Phillips



Boerger



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Compiled by Jeffrey Seifert

This is a list of announced and confirmed projects for 2022 as of press time. Some manufacturers may have more projects for this year that have yet to be announced. Given the past and current global situation, some of these projects may be delayed.

CANADA  
British Columbia

**Cypress Mountain**, West Vancouver....Eagle Coaster - Sunkid Mountain Coaster  
**Eileen Daily Leisure Pool & Fitness Centre**, Burnaby....WhiteWater Open and Enclosed slide  
**Playland at the PNE**, Vancouver....Zamperla Gryphon  
**Prince George Downtown Pool**, Prince George....WhiteWater Open and Enclosed Body Slide

Nova Scotia

**Atlantic Splash Adventure**, Hammonds Plains....Runaway Mine Train — L&T Systems compact coaster relocated from Gillian's Wonderland Pier

Ontario

**Carnival Chaos**, Niagara Falls....Triotech/Gosetto Interactive Hyper Ride

Saskatchewan

**Wascana Pool**, Regina....WhiteWater Kids 2-Lane Multi-Lane, AquaSpray toys

MEXICO  
México

**Six Flags America**, Mexico City....Crazanity — Zamperla Giga Discovery

Veracruz

**Orizaba Adventure Park**, Orizaba....Wiegand Alpine Coaster

UNITED STATES  
Alabama

**Alabama Adventure & Splash Adventure**, Bessemer....Cheddar Chase — L&T Wild Mouse relocated from Lake Winnepesaukah  
**Spring Valley Beach**, Blountsville....ProSlide Double TornadoWave  
**Tropical Falls Indoor Water Park at OWA**, Foley....ProSlide FlyingSaucer 30, Twister (x2), RallyRacer, FreeFall, SuperLoop, Tornado 24, RideHouse 300, SplashPad  
**Wild Water**, Cullman....Two-acre expansion designed by ADG with wave pool; ProSlide TornadoWave 12 / Tornado 18 (SwitchBACK), CannonBowl 30, RallyRace, TurboTwister, Kidz TornadoWave 12, Kidz Twister, Kidz MiniRiver, Kidz ProRacer; Wave pool

Arizona

**Canyon Coaster Adventure Park**, Williams....New park with Canyon Coaster — Wiegand Alpine Coaster  
**Crayola Experience**, Chandler....Chaos & Creativity Theater Show — fully animated theater show  
**Mattel Adventure Park**, Glendale....Bone Shaker — Chance Rides family coaster; Hot Wheels — Chance Rides Hyper GT-X coaster

California

**Belmont Park**, San Diego....Zamperla Jump Around, Crazy Bus  
**North Natomas Recreation Center**, Natomas....WhiteWater AquaSplash, AquaTube, Pool Sider, AquaPlay 300  
**Raging Waters Los Angeles**, San Dimas....Bombs Away — two-slide complex, WhiteWater AquaDrop, Flatline Loop  
**SeaWorld San Diego**, San Diego....Emperor — B&M Dive Coaster  
**Sesame Place**, Chula Vista....Rebranded and rethemed park; Zierer Force coaster; Zamperla Crazy bus, Samba Tower, Midi Family Swinger; Chance carousel; Sunkid Tower; IE Parks Telecombat; WhiteWater redesign and engineering of slides  
**Six Flags Discovery Kingdom**, Vallejo....Sidewinder Safari — Zamperla Twister Coaster with spinning cars  
**Six Flags Magic Mountain**, Valencia....Wonder Woman Flight of Courage — Rocky Mountain Construction raptor track coaster  
**Wild Rivers**, Irvine....Relocation and re-opening of previous Wild River; ADG design; WhiteWater 6-Lane Whizzard, RainFortress 4, Constrictor + AquaSphere Fusion, Python, AquaTube, Pool Sider, Kids' Slides, AquaTube, Pool Sider, Open Flume, AquaTube Drop Slide, Master Blaster + Rattler Fusion, Slideboarding, Constrictor, Open Flume, Super Bowl, Open and Enclosed slide, Boomerango

**Wild Water Adventure Park**, Clovis....WhiteWater AquaDrop, Flatline Loop  
**Colorado**

**Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park**, Glenwood Springs....Defiance — Gerstlauer custom Euro-Fighter

Connecticut

**Lake Compounce**, Bristol....Storm Surge — re-imagined lighthouse body slide with lights and sound from iSlide

**Quassy Amusement & Waterpark**, Middlebury....Rocket Rapids — ProSlide RocketBlast water coaster with flying saucer sections

Florida

**Adventure Island**, Tampa....Rapids Racer — ProSlide Dueling Pipeline/ FlyingSaucer, Wahoo Remix — light and sound rebranded slide

**Aquatica**, Orlando....WhiteWater AquaTube

**Boca Raton Resort and Club**, Boca Raton....WhiteWater FlowRider Double

**Busch Gardens Tampa Bay**, Tampa....Iron Gwazi — Rocky Mountain Construction rebuild of Gwazi coaster

**Crayola Experience**, Orlando....Chaos & Creativity Theater Show — fully animated theater show

**Epcot**, Lake Buena Vista....Guardians of the Galaxy : Cosmic Rewind — Vekoma custom coaster with rotating cars

**Estates at Acqualina** , Miami ....WhiteWater FlowRider Single, Pool Sider

**Fun Spot Kissimmee**, Kissimmee....Rock & Roll — Bertazzon Himalaya; New fleet of 24 Shaller go-karts

**Fun Spot Orlando**, Orlando....Screamer — Moser Spring Rider; New fleet of 24 Shaller go-karts

**Icon Park**, Orlando....Orlando Free Fall — Funtime drop ride (opened Dec 2021); Orlando SlingShot — Funtime SlingShot; Chance Rides 36-foot carousel

**JW Marriott Orlando, Grande Lakes**, Orlando....WhiteWater AquaTube (2), Tailspin + Constrictor Fusion

**Magic Kingdom**, Lake Buena Vista....TRON Lightcycle /Run — Vekoma custom motorbike coaster

**Orlando World Center Marriott**, Orlando....WhiteWater AquaSphere, Boomerango, Tailspin

**Peppa Pig Theme Park**, Winter Haven....Daddy Pig's Roller Coaster — Zamperla Lift & Launch kiddie coaster; Zamperla Jumpin' Star; Technical Park Balloon Ride

**SeaWorld Orlando**, Orlando....Ice Breaker — Premier Rides multi-launch coaster

**Track Recreation Center**, Destin....Spinning Coaster — SBF/Visa spinning cars coaster; Zamperla Jump Around

**Westlake Lakes Resort & Spa**, Orlando....WhiteWater AquaSpray, AquaPlay 1050, Pool Sider, AquaTube

Georgia

**Fun Spot Atlanta**, Fayetteville....ArieForce One — RMC steel coaster

**Six Flags WhiteWater**, Marietta....Python Plunge — ProSlide FlyingSaucer 30

**Wild Adventures**, Valdosta....Water's Edge Brews and Bites restaurant; live entertainment venue; new animal habitat

Illinois

**Aerie's Resort & Winery**, Grafton....Wiegand Alpine Coaster

**Scene75 Entertainment Center**, Romeoville....Tsunami — Visa spinning coaster

Indiana

**Indiana Beach**, Monticello....American Dreier Looping — Schwarzkopf Dreier Looping coaster relocated from Mexico; Cyclone — Galaxi-style coaster relocated from Mexican traveling show

**Lake Rudolph Campground and RV Resort**, Santa Claus....WhiteWater AquaTube, Pool Sider

Iowa

**Adventureland**, Altoona....Nine-ride package from Zamperla including Rockin' Tug, Speedway, Flying Tigers, Pump & JumpZ, Super Happy Swing, Flying Carousel, Samba Balloon, Jump Around

**Lost Island Theme Park**, Waterloo....New theme park with 25 new rides including Matugani — Intamin Accelerator relocated from Liseberg; Vekoma SLC relocated from Ratanga Junction; Shaman's Curse — Zamperla Disk O'; Volkanu, Quest for the Golden Idol — Sally dark ride; SBF/Visa Wacky Worm coaster; Zamperla Midi Family Swinger, Jump Around, Samba Tower, Magic Bikes; Moser ride package; SBF-Visa ride package; Gerstlauer Sky Fly; Western Train Co. carousel; Interlink Super Flume and Splash Battle; Zierer Flying Fish; S&S Turbo Drop



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**Kentucky**  
**Malibu Jacks's**, Ashland....Twist-N-Shout — SBF/Visa spinning cars coaster  
**The Ark Encounter**, Williamstown....Preston & Barbieri 40-foot carousel  
**Venture River Water Park**, Eddyville....TurBoa — ProSlide TurboTwister; Amanzi Falls — ProSlide FreeFall

**Maine**  
**Palace Playland**, Old Orchard Beach....Preston & Barbieri Hyper Jump  
**Maryland**  
**Butler's Orchard**, Germantown....SB International battery-powered tractors  
**Sharptown Fireman's Carnival**, Sharptown....Wacky Worm — Fajume Wacky Worm relocated from Trimper Rides

**Massachusetts**  
**Cape Cod Inflatable Park**, West Yarmouth....ADG FlowRider and Wavepool expansion

**Michigan**  
**Airways Fun Center**, Portage....Spinning Coaster — SBF/Visa spinning cars coaster with hamster wheel option  
**Holland Community Aquatic Center**, Holland....WhiteWater Pool Sider  
**Michigan's Adventure**, Muskegon....WhiteWater Shoot the Chute - 2 new vehicles with hydraulic lap bars  
**Paradise Park**, Novi....Fredericksen Industries 90-foot slide

**Missouri**  
**Six Flags St. Louis**, St. Louis....Catwoman's Whip and Adventure Cove  
**Track Family Fun Park**, Branson....Spinning Coaster — SBF/Visa spinning cars coaster (large model)

**Nebraska**  
**Fun-Plex Waterpark & Rides**, Omaha....WhiteWater Flatline Loop x 2  
**Nevada**  
**Adventuredome Indoor Theme Park**, Las Vegas....Zamperla Midi Tea Cup and Family Swinger  
**Whitney Park Aquatic Center**, Las Vegas....WhiteWater AquaPlay 150, AquaTube Speed Slide, Pool Sider

**New Hampshire**  
**Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park: Glen Ellis**, Glen....Water Zone — 50,000-square-foot water park with swimming pools, slides, waterplay structure with tipping bucket

**New Jersey**  
**Fantasy Island**, Beach Haven....Tilt-A-Whirl — Larson International shark-themed Tilt-A-Whirl  
**Gillians Wonderland Park**, Ocean City....Fredericksen Industries 65-foot slide  
**Jenkinson's Boardwalk**, Point Pleasant Beach....Shark Escape — SBF/Visa double helix coaster  
**Six Flags Great Adventure**, Jackson....Repainting and retheming of Bizzaro floorless coaster back to original Medusa; 30-foot entry sign on Rt 537.  
**The Water Main at Diggerland**, West Berlin....WhiteWater Wave Pool  
**Wizard's Festival of Fun**, Blackwood....Zamperla Happy Swing

**New Mexico**  
**Western Playland**, Sunland Park....Fireball — Larson International Fire Ball loop

**New York**  
**Adventureland**, Farmingdale....Fireball — Ride Engineers Switzerland Roller Ball S; new games; new main gate plaza; Gosetto Bumper Car  
**Ellms Family Farms**, Ballston Spa....SB International battery-powered tractors  
**LegoLand New York**, Goshen....WhiteWater AquaPlay 1050a, AquaSplash  
**Luna Park**, Brooklyn....Tony's Express — Zamperla Junior Coaster; Leti's Treasure — Zamperla SuperFlume  
**Niagara Amusement Park & Splash World**, Grand Island....Schwarzkopf shuttle loop relocated from La Feria  
**Playland**, Rye....Technical Park Sidecar Motorcycle  
**RiseNY**, New York City....Brogent Technologies Flying Theater  
**Six Flags Darien Lake**, Corfu....Wahoo Wave — ProSlide TornadoWave 60  
**Zoom Flume Water Park**, East Durham....Rip Van Racer — ProSlide RallyRacer; ProSlide Twister

**North Carolina**  
**Wet 'n Wild Emerald Pointe**, Greensboro....WhiteWater AquaDrop, Flatline Loop  
**Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park**, Golden Valley....Wiegend Alpine Coaster  
**Ohio**  
**Cedar Point**, Sandusky....Farmhouse Kitchen and Grill — restaurant and entertainment venue

**Kings Island**, Mason....Grand Carousel restoration for 50th anniversary  
**Pennsylvania**

**Sandcastle Waterpark**, West Homestead....WhiteWater Aqua Drop, Flatline Loop  
**Fun Fore All**, Cranberry Township....Zamperla ChronoZ  
**Hersheypark**, Hershey....Jolly Rancher Remix — Retheming of existing Vekoma Boomerang coaster; Mix'd Flavored by Jolly Rancher — Zamperla NebulaZ  
**Kennywood**, West Mifflin....Return of refurbished Kangaroo Ride (Premier Rides)  
**Knoebels Amusement Resort**, Elysburg....Bayern Kurve — Refurbished and assembled from two Bayern Kurve rides acquired from Fun Spot Park, Angola, Indiana, and a traveling carnival  
**Sesame Place**, Langhorne....Zamperla Crazy Bus

**Puerto Rico**  
**Residence Inn San Juan Isla Verde**, San Juan....WhiteWater AquaPlay 150, Life Floor, AquaSplash

**South Carolina**  
**Kingston Embassy Suites Myrtle Beach**, Myrtle Beach....WhiteWater AquaSpray, AquaTube, Pool Sider, AquaPlay 750  
**Track Family Fun**, Myrtle Beach....Spinning Coaster — unknown spinning cars coaster

**Tennessee**  
**Moonshine Mountain Coaster**, Gatlinburg....Upgrade of former Wiegand Gatlinburg Mountain Coaster  
**Skyland Ranch**, Sevierville....New park with scenic chairlift, canopy walks, suspended bridge; Wiegand Alpine Coaster  
**Soaky Mountain Waterpark**, Sevierville....WhiteWater Dueling Blasterango

**Texas**  
**Aquatica**, San Antonio....Riptide Race — ProSlide Dueling Pipeline  
**Big Rivers Waterpark & Adventures**, New Caney....11 new rides including Rolling Thunder — SBF Visa figure eight with spinning cars; Screaming Eagles — Larson International Flying Scooters; swinging ship; swinging pendulum  
**Camp Fimfo**, New Braunfels....Wiegend Alpine Coaster  
**COTALand**, Austin....Texas Wildcat — Schwarzkopf Wildcat relocated from Lightwater Valley (opened late 2021); Palindrome — Gerstlauer custom Infinity Coaster shuttle, SBF log flume  
**Outlaw Pass**, Victoria....Miner Mike — Wisdom Rides powered Miner Mike coaster

**Prairie Playland at Traders Village**, Grand Prairie....Prairie Screamer — E&F Miler coaster relocated from Scandia Amusement Park  
**San Antonio Zoo**, San Antonio....C.W.T. Express — New Swanee River Railroad trains for existing train tracks  
**SeaWorld San Antonio**, San Antonio....Tidal Surge — record-breaking S&S - Sansei Screaming Swing  
**Six Flags Fiesta Texas**, San Antonio....Dr. Diabolical's Cliffhanger – B&M Dive Coaster  
**Six Flags Over Texas**, Arlington....Aquaman: Power Wave — Mack Rides PowerSplash; Pirates of Speelunker Cave — rebuilt, rethemed dark ride  
**Splashway Water Park**, Sheridan....ProSlide Pipeline, TornadoWave 12/ Tornado 18 (SwitchBack), SuperLoop with SkyBox, TurboTwister  
**Traders Village**, Houston....Jumping Jumbos — Larson International Flying Ride; Chance Yo-Yo; Chance 36-foot carousel  
**Wonderland Amusement Park**, Amarillo....Spin-o-Saurus — SBF Visa spinning coaster relocated from Wild Willy's Adventure Zone; Skyline Attractions Crazy Couch

**Virginia**  
**Busch Gardens Williamsburg**, Williamsburg....Pantheon — Intamin custom LSM launch coaster  
**Funland Amusements**, Chincoteague....Zamperla Speedway  
**Kings Dominion**, Doswell....Tumbili — S&S Sansei 4D Free Spin coaster; Reptilian — new paint and retheming of existing Mack Boblsed ride  
**Washington**  
**Leavenworth Adventure Park**, Leavenworth....New Adventure park with trampolines, climbing wall, sluice mining and Wiegand Alpine Coaster  
**Wisconsin**  
**Mt. Olympus**, Wisconsin Dells....WhiteWater SlideWheel  
**Wild West Water Park**, Lake Delton....Water park renovation including two new slides, ProSlide Dueling PipeLine, RallyRacer; Mission: Mars escape room



2022 WHAT'S NEW GUIDE | INTERNATIONAL

Compiled by Jeffrey Seifert

This is a list of announced and confirmed projects for 2022 as of press time. Some manufacturers may have more projects for this year that have yet to be announced. Given the global situation, some of these projects may be delayed.

- Algeria**  
**Rodina Theme Park**, Es Senia....Polin Waterparks Black Hole + Rafting Slide Combination, Black Hole + Flying Boats Combination, Sphere, Turbolance, Space Boat, Kamikaze, Freefall, Looping Rocket, Windigo, Compact Slide, Multislide, Kid's Wide Slide, Kid's Freefall
- Australia**  
**Aussie World**, Palmview....Dingo Racer — Reverchon spinning cars coaster  
**Dreamworld**, Queensland....Steel Taipan, Mack Rides launched coaster (opened Dec. 2021)  
**Luna Park Sydney**, Sydney....Big Dipper — Intamin Hot Racer single rail coaster (opened Dec.2021); Sledgehammer — Zamperla Discovery 360, Jumping Tower 16, Crazy Bus, Jump Around, Samba Balloon 8, Mini Ferris Wheel  
**Sea World**, Surfers Paradise....Martin & Vleminckx/Gravity Group wooden coaster
- Austria**  
**Familypark**, Sankt Margarethen....Wildwasserbahn Biberburg — Intamin Flume Ride  
**Fantasia**, Strasswalchen....Art Engineering Wild Swing  
**Märchenwald Steiermark**, Sankt Georgen....Pleasure Equipment John Heinz suspended swing ride  
**St.Martin am Tennengebirge**, Salzburg....Rollbob-Bahn — Mountain Innovations mountain coaster  
**Steirarodl Modriach**, Edelschrott....Wiegand sport coaster  
**Wiener Prater**, Vienna....Olympia Looping — Schwarzkopf five loop portable coaster
- Azerbaijan**  
**Sahdag Alpine Coaster**, Sahdag....Wiegand alpine coaster
- Bangladesh**  
**Splash Works Water Park**, Dhaka....WhiteWater AquaSplash, Kids' Slides, RainFortress 5, 30 m Wave Pool, FlowRider Double, Open Flume, Open & Enclosed, Rattler, Super Bowl, Flatline Loop, AquaDrop, Whizzard, Boomerango
- Belgium**  
**Beeverland Maaseik**, Maaseik....Butterfly — Sunkid Butterfly Coaster
- Brazil**  
**Alles Park**, Pomerode....New German-themed park with carousel, inflatables and snow park  
**Animalia**, Cotia....New park with multiple rides including Bear Mountain — Shangang Rides spinning cars coaster; Space Moon — Chance Rides Toboggan relocated from showman; SBF/Visa Cyclon Coaster; Visa Big Air Coaster  
**Cidade da Criança**, São Bernardo....unknown coaster of Italian origin  
**Mabu Thermas Grand Resort**, Foz do Iguaçu ...WhiteWater RainFortress  
**Tivoli Park**, Rio De Janeiro....Zamperla powered coaster relocated from Ita Park
- China**  
**Bohai Pearl Happy Valley**, Hunchon....Jinma Broken Rail coaster  
**Daya Bay Children's Park**, Huiyang....New park with Qin Long family coaster  
**Fanta Animation Park**, Luqiao....New park with Vekoma Family Boomerang; Vekoma Renegade coaster  
**Fanta Park Road of Rejuvenation**, Hongze....New park with Vekoma junior coaster; Vekoma Top Gun launch coaster; unknown family coaster  
**Fantasy Valley**, Xiangzhou....New park with B&M Wing Coaster; Jinma Rides Mine Coaster; GCII Thunderbird wooden coaster clone  
**Fantawild**, Yiliang....New park with Vekoma Family Boomerang; Vekoma Top Gun coaster  
**Fuli Ocean Happy World**, Linghui....New park with Barracuda — Intamin five-inversion coaster; Twister — Intamin spinning cars coaster  
**Happy Valley**, Qixia....Light of Revenge — Intamin multi-launch coaster (opened Dec. 2021)  
**Hengyang Maya Playa Water Park at OCT Hunan**, Hengyang....WhiteWater AquaLoop, Flatline Loop, Whizzard, Kids' Boomerango, Kids' Rattler, AquaTube, Multi-Lane, Ramp Slide, Master Blaster + Rattler Fusion, AquaPlay Custom, Wave River, AquaCourse 240  
**Hong Kong Disneyland**, Lantau Island....Wandering Oaken's Sliding Sleighs — Vekoma custom junior coaster  
**Nickelodeon Universe**, Yubei....Mikey's Halfpipe — Intamin Surfrider shuttle coaster; Shredder — Intamin spinning cars coaster; Turbo Turtle Power —

- Intamin LSM launched coaster; Maurer Rides spike coaster  
**Ningzhou Park**, Huaining....Jungle Mouse coaster  
**Ocean Flower Island Fairyland**, Danzhou....New park with four steel coasters including Vekoma Firestorm; S&S-Sansei 4D Free Spin; Jinma rides family coaster; Jinma rides mine train  
**Oriental Heritage**, Zhongmu....New park with Vekoma Family Boomerang; Vekoma Space Warp  
**Sanya Silk Paradise**, Sanya....Zamperla NebulaZ  
**Silk Road Paradise**, Xi'An....Zamperla NebulaZ  
**Sunac Cultural Tourism City**, Haiyan....New park with Mack Rides hyper coaster; Mack Rides PowerSplash; Maurer Rides spinning cars coaster; Jinma Rides family coaster;  
**Sunac Land**, Chengdu...All Speeds — Intamin dual-launch coaster  
**Suzhou Amusement Land Forest World**, Huqiu....Hurricane Roller Coaster — Mack Rides multi-element coaster  
**Taihu Zhi Xing Park**, Binhu....Jinma Rides family roller coaster  
**Window of the World**, Kaifu....Zamperla Surf's Up  
**Window of the World**, Nanshan....Family Roller Coaster — Beijing Shibaolai family coaster  
**Wuyi Park**, Guan'an....New park with two new coasters  
**Xiangyang Wildlife World**, Nanzhang....Jungle Coaster — Jungle Mouse  
**Xuzhou Paradise**, Quanshan....Blue Fire — Mack Rides Blue Fire launched coaster  
**Yongjia Nantong Aircraft Carrier World**, Nantong....Polin Waterparks Time Rider, Racer Twin Blackhole, Space Boat, Flying Saw, Windigo, 2 pcs Family Space Shuttle, Family Flying Saw, three pieces Aquatube, Freefall, Looping Rocket, Sphere, Family Space Boat
- Colombia**  
**Hotel Lagomar El Penon Compensar**, Girardot....WhiteWater AquaTube, Pool Sider
- Czechia**  
**Horský Areál Kraličá**, Staré Město....Wiegand alpine coaster  
**Majaland Praha**, Tuchoměřice....Zierer Family Freefall, Kontiki
- Denmark**  
**Djurs Sommerland**, Nimtofte....T-Rex family coaster — Mack Rides powered coaster; Zamperla Disk'O Coaster 24  
**Fårup Sommerland**, Blokhus....Fønix — Vekoma Wildcat coaster  
**Legoland Billund**, Billund....Lego Mini Boats — scenic boat ride  
**Universal Science Park**, Nordburg....Beat the Storm — wind tunnel hurricane simulator
- Egypt**  
**Jungle Aquapark**, Hurgada - Al Ismaileya....Polin Waterparks Dragero, Freefall, Looping Rocket, King Cobra, Kids Multislide, Compact Slide, Kids Aquatube, Kids Wide Slide, two pieces Compact Slide, Kids Wide Slide, Multislide, Mini Magicone  
**Marassi Waterpark**, Marassi....WhiteWater Abyss, Constrictor, FlowRider Double, Wave River, AquaSplash, AquaPlay 1050, Kids' Slides, AquaLoop, Flatline Loop, Freefall, 4-lane Whizzard, AquaSphere, Boomerango, Tailspin
- England**  
**Blackpool Pleasure Beach**, Blackpool....Relaunch of Valhalla indoor themed flume ride; Spinning car addition on Mack Rides Icon coaster  
**Chessington World of Adventure**, Chessington....Rockin' Tug and splash battle ride  
**Drayton Manor**, Tamworth....Zamperla NebulaZ, Disk'O Coaster 24  
**Fantasy Island**, Ingoldmells....Wild River Rapids — spinning rapids; The Guardian — dark ride; Harrington Flint's Island Adventures — dark ride  
**Flamingo Land**, Malton....Invers10n — Intamin 10-inversion coaster relocated from Hopi Hari  
**Great Yarmouth Pleasure Beach**, Great Yarmouth....Whirlwind — SBF/Visa spinning cars coaster  
**Gulliver's Warrington**, Warrington....Spinning cards coaster  
**Paultons Park**, Romsey....Farmyard Flyer — Zierer Force Custom  
**Sandwell Valley Amusements**, West Bromwich....Crazy Caterpillar — Güven Amusement Rides Brucomela  
**Sooty Land**, Crealy....New park with four outdoor rides, 10 indoor attractions  
**Southport Pleasureland**, Southport....Ferris Wheel
- Equatorial Guinea**  
**Parque Aquatico Frente Al Mar**, ....Polin Waterparks Aquatube, Freefall, Multislide, Tunnel Freefall, Body Slide
- Estonia**  
**Liikluslinn**, Uhtjärve....Ameerika Mäed — kiddie roller coaster
- France**  
**Babyland-Amiland**, Saint-Pierre-du-Perray....Pteranodon — swing ride  
**Center Parcs – Domaine des Landes de Gascogne**, Lot et Garonne....



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WhiteWater AquaSplash, AquaTube, Constrictor + Rattler Fusion, Head Rush Mat Racer, Parallel Pursuit, AquaPlay 750  
**Dennlys Parc**, Dennebroeucq....Mini flume ride  
**Fraispertuis City**, Jeanménil....Technical Park Sidecar XL  
**Futuroscope**, Chasseneuil-du-Poitou....Chasseurs de Tornades — Dynamic Attractions Dynamic Motion Theater  
**Kingoland**, Plumelin....Les Montgolfières — Balloon ride  
**La Norma Ski Resort**, Villarodin-Bourget....Luge sur Rails — Wiegand Alpine Coaster  
**Le Fleury**, Wavrechain-sous-Faulx....Rhaegal — family coaster  
**Le Pal**, Dompierre Sur Besbre....Vortex Aquatic Structures water playground  
**Parc Astérix**, Plailly....Tonnerre 2 Zeus — Gravity Group retracking and refurbishment of existing Tonnerre de Zeus wooden coaster; new GravityKraft trains  
**Parc Babyland**, Grau-du-Roi....Roller Coaster — Big Apple/Wacky Worm  
**Parc Spirou**, Monteaux....Zamperla Disk'O Coaster 24; water playground  
**Parc St Paul**, Saint Paul....Zamperla NebulaZ  
**Walibi Rhône-Alpes**, Les Avenières....Exotic Island — two new aquatic playground areas  
**Walt Disney Studios Park**, Marne-la-Vallée....Web Slingers: A Spider-Man Adventure — interactive screen ride

Germany

**Affen- und Vogelpark**, Reichshof Eckenhausen....Inno-Heege Drifter  
**Alpspitzbahn Nesselwang**, Nesselwang....Alpspitz Coaster — Wiegand Alpine Coaster (opened December 2021)  
**Edelwies Natur- und Freizeitpark**, Neukirchen....Ride Engineers Switzerland interactive boat ride  
**Eifelpark**, Gondorf....Platzhirsch — Funtime Booster  
**Eloria Erlebnisfabrik**, Bottrop....Exploria — 17,000-square-foot, 1920s-themed escape room  
**Erlebnis & Tigerpark**, Dassow....Inno-Heege Comet  
**Erlebnispark Märchen**, Heroldsbach....Sunkid/Heege Butterfly coaster  
**Erlebnispark Märchenwald**, Saalburg....Pleasure Equipment John Heinz Balloon Ride  
**Erlebnispark Steinau**, Steinau an der Straße....Pleasure Equipment John Heinz suspended swing ride  
**Europa-Park**, Rust....Expanded Austrian area with Josefina’s Magical Imperial Journey — re-imagined boat cable-tow ride (former Jungle Rafts); Danube Steamer — 40-passenger boat ride through Austrian-themed area (former African Queen); Vienna Water Waltz — water fountain show with 54 fountains; Happy Family Next Level 4D — New 4D adventure film  
**Family Paradise**, Leverkusen....Pleasure Equipment John Heinz Family Ballon, mini-teacup, mini-wheel  
**Fliped Funpark**, Singen....New indoor park with 5-D cinema, VR room, trampolines  
**Freizeit-Land Geiselwind**, Geiselwind....Taka Waka — family coaster  
**Hansapark**, Sierksdorf....Sunkid Rope Tower; Indoor section with three new childrens rides; inclusion playground  
**Jaderpark**, Jaderberg....Flotte Kisten — pedal go-karts  
**Karls Erlebnis-Dorf Oberhausen**, Oberhausen....Park transformation with new rides including Erdbeer-Raupenbahn — SBF Visa Wacky Worm  
**LandErlebnis Janßen**, Westerstede....Sunkid/Heege Butterfly coaster  
**Movie Park Germany**, Bottrop....Bandit wooden coaster retracking by Holzbau Cordes; Eibe Produktion playground  
**Potts Park**, Minden....Klippenschleuder — Art Engineering 360-degree swing ride  
**Rasti-Land**, Salzheimendorf....Strohnado — SBF/Visa spinning cars coaster with hamster wheel option  
**Rügenpark**, Gingst....Inno-Heege Jungle Loop  
**Rulantica**, Rust....Tønnevirvel — Mack Rides spinning splash battle; Snorri's Rutscheplads — Children's mini racing slide; Snorri's Spelaborg — dry playground area  
**Schloß Beck Freizeitpark**, Bottrop....Kinderland Parks water playground  
**Schloss Dankern**, Haren....Waterworks water playground  
**Schwaben Park**, Kaiserbach....Berliner Seilfabrik balloon ride  
**Serengeti-Park**, Hodenhagen....Gozimba — Ride Engineers Switzerland inverted coaster  
**Skyline Park**, Bad Wörishofen....Berg- und Tal Hetz — family roller coaster; Flotter Otto — SBF/Visa double helix coaster  
**Tier- und Freizeitpark Thüle**, Friesoythe-Thüle....CoasterKart — Wiegand CoasterKart powered coaster  
**Trampolino Familien- und Freizeitpark**, Andernach....Pleasure Equipment John Heinz Star Flyer  
**Traumland auf der Bärenhöhle**, Sonnenbühl....Biber-Hopser — Zierer freefall tower; Igelkarussell — Art Engineering interactive carousel

**Wild- und Freizeitpark Klotten/Cochem**, Klotten....Inno-Heege Drifter  
**Wild- und Freizeitpark Willingen**, Willingen....Pleasure Equipment John Heinz Mini Star Flyer and Balloon Ride

Grand Caymen Islands

**Kimpton Seafire Resort + Spa**, ....WhiteWater AquaForms 400, AquaSplash, Life Floor

India

**Sparky's**, Thiruvananthapuram....New park with indoor roller coaster

Ireland

**Tayto Park**, Ashbourne....Dino Dash — Vekoma junior coaster

Israel

**Luna Kass (Magic Kass)**, Ma'ale Adumim....Larson International 22-meter Giant Loop

Italy

**Cavallino Matto**, Castagneto Carducci....Pirate-themed rafting ride  
**Gardaland**, Castelnuovo del Garda....Jumanji - The Adventure — Dark ride with theming elements from Polin Group's Futura Form  
**Osteria Ai Pioppi**, Treviso....Gioco Delle Onde — In-house U-shaped coaster

Ivory Coast

**Akwatic Park**, Abidjan....Polin Waterparks Black Hole + Rafting Slide Combination, two pieces Kamikaze Freefall, Body Slide, Tunnel Freefall, Multislide, Space Hole, Black Hole + Turbolance Combination

Japan

**Fuji-Q Highland**, Fujiyoshida....Wiegand spiral tube slide  
**Legoland Japan**, Nagoya....Water Maze — water play structure/maze with 19 water cannons and five water slides  
**Tobu Zoo Park**, Minami....Refurbishment and retracking of Regina wooden coaster (Great Coasters International, Inc.)

Malaysia

**Genting Skyworlds**, Genting Highlands....reopening of Park with Mad Ramp Peak — Dynamic Attractions dueling powered coaster; Dynamic Attractions SFX coaster; Acorn Adventure — Beijing Shibaoli steel coaster; Samba Glides — Setpoint suspended coaster

Moldova

**Aquaterra Wellness & Spa**, Chisinau....Proslide Waterparks Black Hole + Flying Boats Combination, Rafting Slide + Flying Boats Combination, Body Slide, Space Hole, Aquatube, Kamikaze Freefall, Tunnel Freefall, Looping Rocket, Windigo

Netherlands

**Avonturenpark Hellendoorn**, Hellendoorn....RidderStrijd — Reverchon spinning cars coaster relocated from La Feria  
**De Waarbeek**, Hengelo....Rupsje Mae — Güven Amusement Rides Brucomela relocated from De Valkenier  
**Efteling**, Kaatsheuvel....Sirocco teacup ride; Archipel water play area  
**Julianatoren**, Apeldorn....Texas Twister — SBF/Visa spinning cars coaster  
**Toverland**, Sevenum....Expedition Zork — retheming of existing Mack Fume Ride with new storyline

New Zealand

**Parakiore Recreation and Sport Centre**, Christchurch....New Zealand's largest indoor water park with Polin Waterparks Looping Rocket Hidrolik, three pieces Aquatube, Sphere+Black Hole

Norway

**Hunderfossen Familiepark**, Fåberg....Fyr & Flamme — Gerstlauer Bob Coaster  
**TusenFryd**, Oppegård....HuriHuri — Zamperla compact spinning coaster

Pakistan

**D Mall**, Islamabad....Pakistan's first indoor water park with Polin Waterparks three pieces Compact Slide, two pieces Wide Slide, Multi Slide, Mini Magicone, Splash Bucket

Poland

**Energylandia**, Zator....Choco Chip Creek — Vekoma mine train; Honey Harbour — Vekoma junior coaster; four rides from Zamperla; Gosetto Magic Tree; SBF Candy Carousel  
**Lesny Park**, Niespodzianek....Pleasure Equipment John Heinz Balloon Ride; Mammoet Monorail  
**Majaland Warschau**, Warsaw....Zierer Force Two; iPlay waterslides; Gerstlauer Sky Fly  
**Zatorland**, Zator....RobalCoaster — Big Apple/Wack Worm

Qatar

**Aquatar**, Lusail....Intamin spinning cars coaster  
**Qetaifan Island North**, Doha....WhiteWater AquaLoop, Flatline Loop, Giant AquaTubes, Rattler, AquaSphere, Tailspin, Whizzard 6-Lane Mat Racer, Speed Slide, Walhalla, Abyss  
**Waldorf Astoria Lusail Doha**, Doha....WhiteWater AquaPlay Custom, AquaSpray, Life Floor, Adventure Trail



2022 WHAT'S NEW GUIDE | INTERNATIONAL

**Russia**  
**Attrapark**, Moscow City....Vekoma Boomerang; Vekoma junior coaster  
**VDNKh Park**, Moscow....Sun of Moscow observation wheel

**Saudi Arabia**  
**Riyadh Winter Wonderland**, Riyadh....Sky Loop — Premier Rides Skyrocket II

**Serbia**  
**Vrnjačke Banje Aqua Park**, Vrnjačke Banje....Polin Waterparks Space Shuttle, Flying Saw, Black Hole + Rafting Slide Combination, Black Hole + Flying Boats Combination, 2 Pcs Kamikaze Freefall, Multislide, Body Slide, Multislide, Kamikaze Freefall

**Singapore**  
**HometeamsNS Clubhouse Bedok**, Singapore....WhiteWater AquaTube, Giant AquaTube, AquaCourse 8  
**SkyHelix Sentosa**, Sentosa....Aerophile 80-meter gondola ride

**South Korea**  
**Legoland Korea**, Chuncheon....New park and resort with Legoland Hotel; multiple rides including Dragon coaster — Zierer Force Five; Ninjago dark ride; Splash Battle  
**Lotte World Adventure Busan - Magic Forest**, Gijang....New park with multiple rides including Giant Digger — Mack Rides Blue Fire Coaster; Giant Splash — Mack Rides PowerSplash; Magical Cookie Train — roller coaster; Fox in the Henhouse — Zamperla Flying Tigers, Flight of the Bumble Bee — wave swinger, Zamperla Aero Top Jet, Adult bumper cars, Discovery Mega 40, midi bumper cars, midi family swinger, jump around, jumping star

**Spain**  
**Parque Warner Madrid**, Madrid....Extensive retracking of Coaster Express wooden coaster  
**Villanueva de la Cañada**, Villanueva De La Canada....WhiteWater AquaTwist Mat Racer

**Sweden**  
**Conny-Land**, Lipperswil....Vertical Dark Ride  
**Liseberg**, Gothenburg....Turbo — Technical Park Turbo ride; Tempus — Zamperla NebulaZ  
**Tossellilla**, Tomelilla....Forza — Zierer Elevated Seating coaster (ESC)

**Taiwan**  
**Leofoo Village Theme Park**, Guanxi....Larson International 22-meter Giant Loop

**Thailand**  
**Jungle Adventure Park**, Hang Dong....Coaster Kart — Wiegand CoasterKart;

Sunkid Butterfly

**Turkey**  
**Banut Lara Hotel**, Antalya....Polin Waterparks King Cobra, Dragero, Looping Rocket, Uphill Navigatour + Sphere Combination, Wide Slide, Compact Slide,  
**Ela Quality Resort Balek**, Antalya....Polin Waterparks Looping Rocket, Body Slide, Aquatube, Body Slide, Rafting Slide + Spheres Combination, Black Hole + Wave Slide Combination  
**Titanic Golf Belek Hotel**, Antalya....Polin Waterparks Rift Slide, five pieces Windigo, Kamikaze, Freefall, Looping Rocket

**UAE**  
**Aquaventure at Atlantis Dubai**, Dubai....WhiteWater Vantage platform

**United Arab Emirates**  
**Bollywood Parks Dubai**, Dubai....Bombay Express — GCII wooden coaster  
**Dubai Hills Mall**, Dubai....Storm — Intamin indoor coaster with vertical LSM lift hill  
**Ferrari World Abu Dhabi**, Abu Dhabi....Mission Ferrari — Dynamic Attractions SFX Coaster; Formula Rossa Junior — Zamperla Junior Coaster  
**Jebel Jeis**, Ras al-Khaimah....Jais Sledder — Wiegand Alpine Coaster  
**Motiongate**, Dubai....John Wick: Open Contract — S&S Sansei 4D Free Spin; Now You See Me: High Roller — Maurer Rides spinning cars coaster  
**SeaWorld Abu Dhabi**, Abu Dhabi....New park with B&M Wing Coaster; Jinma Rides Mine Coaster; GCII Thunderbird wooden coaster clone

**Uzbekistan**  
**Magic City Theme Park**, Tashkent....Magic Aquarium — tunnelled aquarium from Polin Aquariums

**Vietnam**  
**Dragon Do Son Waterpark**, Do Son....Polin Waterparks Looping Rocket, Racer Rift, King Cobra, Racer Slide + Uphill Navigatour Combination, Surf Safari, Storm Racer, Wide Slide, Multislide, Wide Slide, 2 Pcs Aquatube, Compact Slide  
**Sun World Hon Thom Nature Park**, Phú Quốc....Roaring Timbers — GCII wooden coaster

**Wales**  
**Barry Island Promenade Fun Park**, Barry Island....Family Coaster — Güven Amusement Rides Brucomela  
**Fun Land**, Towyn....Big Apple/Wacky Worm coaster; Reverchon spinning cars coaster relocated from Lightwater Valley  
**Knightly's Funfair**, Towyn....Goldmine Express — CAM mine train coaster relocated from De Waarbeek

2022 WHAT'S NEW GUIDE | TRAVELING SHOWS AND CRUISE SHIPS

Compiled by Jeffrey Seifert and B. Derek Shaw

**CRUISE SHIPS**  
**Global Dream Cruise Ship**....Maurer Rides Space Cruiser  
**Carnival Celebration Cruise Ship**....Maurer Rides Spike Coaster; WhiteWater AquaSpray, AquaTube, Flatline Loop, Head Rush, AquaPlay 250  
**Royal Caribbean Wonder of the Seas**....WhiteWater FlowRider Wave-in-a-Box Double

**TRAVELING SHOWS**  
**Amusements of Rochester**....WorldRide Tivoli Orbiter  
**Anderson Midways**....Wisdom Rides of America 60-foot Jiffy Wheel  
**Bates Amusements**....SBF Rides Groovy Bus  
**Beauce Carnival**....KMG Surf Rider  
**Big O Amusements**....Wadkins Expo Wheel  
**Big Rock Amusements**....SBF Rides Groovy Bus (Beach Buggies)  
**Biloxi Park**....Technical Park 45-meter Wheel  
**CDAC, Inc.**....Wadkins Expo Wheel  
**D&K Carnival**....Fredericksen Industries 90-foot Slide  
**Deggeller Attractions**....POI Rides Cruiser (Kiddie flat ride)  
**Drew Expositions**....KMG X-drive (Super spec.)  
**Durant Amusements**....Visa Mini Pirate  
**E K Fernandez**....Visa Mini Pirate  
**Family Fun Time Amusements**....Luna-Park Rides 50-foot Gondola wheel  
**Fantasy Amusements**....Technical Park Street Fighter  
**Fun Time Shows (Mo)**....Fredericksen Industries 90-foot slide  
**Houghton Enterprises**....Visa Mini Pirate  
**Kissel Amusement Co.(Ohio)**....Wadkins Expo Wheel  
**Lisko Family Midways**....Technical Park Street Fighter

**Luehrs' Ideal Rides**....SBF Rides Mini-Jet with dogs  
**Lynam's Amusements**....Luna-Park Rides 50-foot Gondola wheel  
**Matt Jax Amusements**....Luna-Park Rides 50-foot Gondola wheel  
**Matt Jax Amusements**....SBF Rides Groovy Bus  
**McDaniel Brothers Shows**....Wisdom Rides of America 60-foot Jiffy Wheel  
**Mid West Amusements**....Ital.International Drop Tower, Boat  
**Modern Midways**....Wadkins Expo Wheel  
**NAME**....Visa Mini Crazy Dance (Raptor Run), Mini Breakdance  
**PBJ Happee Day Shows**....Wisdom Rides of America 60-foot Jiffy Wheel  
**Poor Jacks Amusements**....SBF Rides Groovy Bus  
**Powers & Thomas Midway Entertainment**....Gosetto NY, NY Funhouse  
**Powers Great American Shows**....Sartori Amusement Rides Techno Jump; SBF Rides Crazy Cabs, Reverse Time; Wisdom Rides of America Himalaya  
**Pride of Texas Shows**....Wadkins Expo Wheel  
**Rainier Shows**....KMG Freak-Out  
**Reithoffer Shows**....Fredericksen Industries 90-foot slide; Bertazzon Ice Jet, Bertazzon Swing Carousel; A.R.M.Rides Rock Star, Gosetto two-story Fun House; Wisdom Rides of America Monster Trucks; Jung-Max Rides Speedy Gonzalez roller coaster; Technical Park Beast (Street Fighter)  
**Rosedale Attractions & Shows**....Fredericksen Industries 90-foot slide  
**Saudi Arabia (travelling)**....Nova Coaster — Sartori portable inverted coaster  
**Skerbeck Entertainment Group**....Battech Enterprises Zero Gravity  
**Sun Valley Rides**....Luna-Park Rides 50-foot Gondola wheel  
**TDK, LLC**....Wadkins Expo Wheel  
**Texas Born Amusements**....Luna-Park Rides 50-foot Gondola wheel  
**Todd Armstrong Shows**....Wisdom Rides of America 60-foot Jiffy Wheel  
**Tons of Fun Shows**....Chance Rides 36-foot Carousel; A.R.M.Rides Vortex  
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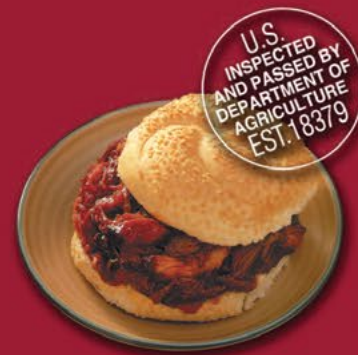


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# SAFETY, MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS

► Barto launches PB Amusement, LLC — page 58 / Reithoffer Shows refurbishes its fleet — page 60

Operational signs, shade and paint enhance guest experience

## Six Flags Magic Mountain embraces improvements in amenities

AT: Tim Baldwin  
tbaldwin@amusementtoday.com

VALENCIA, Calif. — **Six Flags Theme Parks** are undergoing new initiatives as the 2022 season gets underway. **Six Flags Magic Mountain** is at the forefront of many of the new enhancements to the guest experience. The Southern California theme park is the only park in the company that is open daily.

One of the most noticeable changes is the installation of electronic signs around the park that post wait times for the numerous attractions within Magic Mountain. The signs were implemented in April.

"It is part of the overall company directive to improve the guest experience," said **Alexandria French**, communications. "From point A to point B, from the moment they enter



This before-and-after comparison shows the vibrancy that has been brought to life on Tatsu. COURTESY BAYNUM PAINTING

the park until the time they leave, we all know that one of the biggest things our guests are interested in is getting onto the rides as quickly as possible and being able to ride as many rides as possible. They are

able to plan and navigate their way through the park."

It is expected that Six Flags Magic Mountain's sister parks will follow suit with this particular initiative. According to French, the new signage uses the technology of the Six Flags app.

"Not everyone uses their phone or downloads the app," French told *Amusement Today*. "By putting the signs in the park in high traffic areas, it's easier for guests to see what the ride times are. It's really about maximizing the experience so guests can enjoy every part of their day and do as much as they can."

Other amenities include more shade and elevated food offerings. Attention has also been given to park-

ing areas. More seating areas have also been added.

"We know how warm it can be in the summer," said French. "We want our guests to be able to cool down, they can rest and get a snack. We're also increasing our landscaping. We are wanting the experience to be so immersive. Being in L.A., we want our food items to be diverse and inclusive as possible, highlighting as many different foods as we can. We are trying to offer something vegetarian, vegan or gluten-free at each location."

The new shade follows on the heels of a relatively recent addition of covering the park's Scrambler flat ride with a shade structure. French says more queues

have also seen added shade. Tables and umbrellas have also been increased.

French said that by popular demand, several of the attractions have reintroduced single rider lines.

One of the largest coasters built on top of the mountain has been given a fresh look. Tatsu, a **Bolliger & Mabillard** flying coaster, has recently undergone a dramatic color change. **Baynum Painting** was brought in to do the challenging project. **Chris Baynum**, president, knew this particular job was going to take some strategy, owing to the rugged mountainous terrain.

"The topography of where that coaster is built is very limiting for lift access anywhere," he told AT. "We knew this was going to be a job where we would have to utilize these 'spiders,' which are man baskets from cables. The majority of that project had to be done with spiders."

Knowing the project would present a challenge, Baynum had a very focused approach.

"We took our highest skilled workers and placed them [on the project]," Baynum said. "This really was 11 years in the making. We've been talking to Six Flags about it. The excitement for me was as high as it gets when I got the

► See FLAGS, page 56



More shade continues to be a continuously added amenity for Six Flags Magic Mountain guests, such as this covering over the park's Scrambler. AT/TIM BALDWIN

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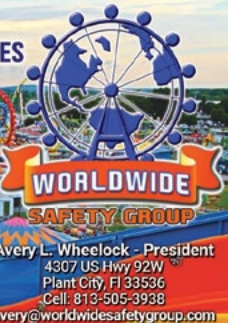
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## The Beast emerges bigger than ever



MASON, Ohio — Every year records are broken by feet sometimes inches, by the newest, fastest and highest coasters. But there's one coaster record that hasn't been touched in more than 40 years, the record for the World's Longest Wooden Roller Coaster. Currently that record belongs to The Beast at Kings Island. Thanks to offseason track work by the park — reprofiling of The Beast's iconic first drop by Cincinnati's The Gravity Group — the coaster is getting longer in 2022 and will break its own record. When the coaster opens in May it will be two feet longer, extending its track length to 7,361 feet. During the off-season, the park has retracked more than 2,000 feet of the coaster. COURTESY KINGS ISLAND

### ► FLAGS Continued from page 55

call. But it was an intense amount of planning."

This particular project involved changing the color scheme of the ride. While color choices are always up to the customer, Baynum says his team appreciates a new color palate when engaged in a job.

"Absolutely the most exciting thing for us to do is change colors," said Baynum. "It's a whole new experience for the guest. It's great for the park; it's great for our guys. When you can see the color change, it brings something different to the job each day."

"Tatsu being such a fan favorite, it just needed a little bit of love," said French. "It covers a lot of terrain; you can really see that ride from anywhere in the park. Adding that color to it really brought it back to life."

The project took about four months because of various aspects of the job. In discussing the unique nature of the project, Baynum said Six Flags Magic Mountain was a great partner to work

Electronic wait time signs inform guests to help them plan their experience.

AT/TIM BALDWIN

with. Because most of the ride was up in the air or soared over another coaster, it became essential to temporarily close a midway or attraction for safety reasons.

"Fortunately for us, the park was very understanding," said Baynum. "The rigging was very intense. It was unheard of."

Winter projects can be plagued with snow. With the California location, wintery conditions weren't the obstacle.

"We had challenges with wind like we've never had before," said Baynum. "The word from people around the park was they had never seen anything like it. There are no low points on that coaster. We took extra precautions. Everybody has to be harnessed at all times. Our men are tethered to the structure and not just a lift."

These safety measures ensure that in the unlikely circumstance that something would happen to the lift, the worker would still be safe.



"[Six Flags] worked great with us to cordon off an area so that guests below were not [in an unsafe area] — from water mist to a paint drop or a dropped tool. It took a little more coordination than usual, but Six Flags was phenomenal. The support and understanding of the challenges we had in any shape or form ... the park was outstanding," Baynum noted, applauding the collaboration that isn't always a given. "They bent over backward to assist us."

Six Flags Magic Mountain currently has 19 coasters — a world record — with a 20th under construction.





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# Amusement industry veteran Barto launches PB Amusement, LLC

MECHANICSBURG, Pa. — At expos, in the parks and elsewhere, **Pete Barto** has crossed paths with much of the amusement and attractions industry in the past 20 years. For years, Barto has built a successful career in the industry with his skill set, passion for everything amusement and a desire to give back to those in the industry.

Now, Barto is banking on the support of his amusement industry family with the next chapter of his career. This past March, Barto formally launched his new company, **PB Amusement, LLC (PBA)**. The company was officially unveiled at NEAAPA's 109th Anniversary Education Conference & Annual Meeting in Mystic, Connecticut, with the purpose of matching operators with the most appropriate



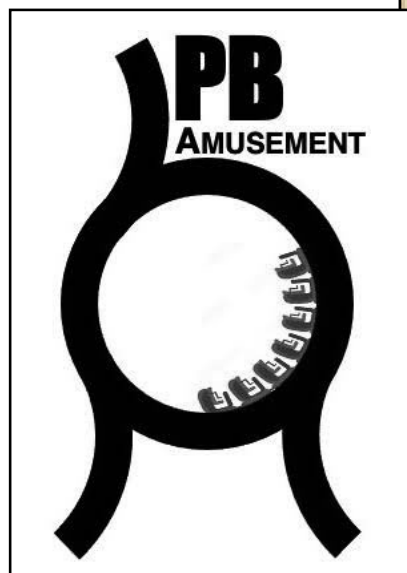
Barto

new products and services available to the market.

Be it a roller coaster, a 4D theater, adventure attraction, theming, engineering and fabrication or food and beverage, PBA will have a quality solution to serve clients and their guests based on the company's knowledge of the industry and wide-ranging personal and professional relationships.

"My oldest childhood memories were of our family going to **Hersheypark, Dorney Park, Morey's Pier, Canobie Lake Park, Joe's Playland** and **Salisbury Beach** — to name a few — and, for me, it wasn't just about the rides, it was about the entire experience," offered Barto. "The sites, the smells, the sounds, the tastes, and the anticipation of the lifelong memories that were bound to be created during my day in the park, I loved it all."

PBA was established to aid parks in finding that right solution to address



specific needs and create lifelong memories for the next generation.

After working for other well-known hospitality experts like **Domino's Pizza, McDonald's, Kiddie Academy, Childcare Learning Centers** and **Billy Casper Golf Management**, Barto's first official industry job came when he was offered the opportunity to sell booth space and sponsorships for the



Barto's passion for the amusement industry started as a child visiting Hersheypark among others. COURTESY PETE BARTO

**International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions (IAAPA)** Expos. After a successful run of more than seven years, Barto has established himself as a trustworthy and recognizable name in the industry. After a two-year stint learning

the park side of the business at Hersheypark, he was sought after by many manufacturers to provide successful sales results for well-known industry leaders such as **Premier Rides, S&S Worldwide** and **Extreme Engineering**.

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### AIMS International welcomes new board members, officers

**AIMS International** is excited to welcome **David Bromilow** as its new board president effective April 1. Bromilow is a mechanical engineer with 45 years of experience in amusement industry operations, maintenance and inspection. His current role is global director parks and attractions for **Mobaro**. Bromilow is also a member of the IAAPA EMEA Safety Committee, the IAAPA Global Safety Committee and ASTM Committee F24. He replaces **Tony Claassen** of Silver Dollar City, who served as board president since April 2020. Claassen will remain on the executive committee.

AIMS also welcomes **Patrick Hoffman**, president and owner of **The Hoffman Consulting Group** to the vice president position. He has spent 54 years working in the amusement industry; the last seven in his current role. In addition to being one of the founding members of AIMS International and serving on the board for 12 years, he has been its

president twice in the past. Hoffman is a member of **IAAPA**, **AIMS**, **ASTM Committee F24**, **IALDA** and **OABA**. He holds an AIMS Maintenance Level II certification and an AIMS Operations Level II certification.

AIMS and the board would like to thank Claassen for his leadership and unwavering support over the past two years. Taking office in April 2020, Claassen led the organization through the COVID-19 pandemic, was instrumental in the organizations shift to a virtual seminar in 2021, and its return to Galveston, Texas, in 2022.

**Timo Klaus, KumbaK – The Amusement Engineers**, will remain the organization's treasurer, a position he has held for the past two years.

AIMS International and its board of directors would also like to welcome **Hugo Loyola**, **Michelle Faulk**, and **Randall Wilke** to the board replacing departing members, **George Tso** of **Ocean Park**; **Linda Freeman** of

**Rockwell Automation**; **Rick Achard** of **Coulter Associates**; and **Jeff Savelesky** of **Attraction Solutions**. AIMS and the board would like to thank Tso, Freeman, Achard, and Savelesky for their years of service and dedication to the organization.

**Hugo Loyola** is the Corporate Process Manager for **Diversur Group (Fantasilandia, Happyland)** in Santiago, Chile. He has worked for seven years in the amusement industry. His professional memberships include ASTM Committee F24, IAAPA and **ACOLAP**. He also chairs the AIMS Spanish Language Committee and is the 2021 AIMS International Safety Award winner.

**Michelle Faulk**, a newcomer to AIMS International, is the Bureau Chief for the State of Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services — Bureau of Fair Rides Inspection. She has been involved in safety in the amusement industry for the past

15 years and is a member of ASTM Committee F24, the Florida Federation of Fairs and AIMS International.

**Randall Wilke**, Corporate Director of Public Safety – Security, Safety, Health & Environmental for **Six Flags Corporation** comes to the AIMS board with 26 years of experience in the amusement industry. Wilke has served for more than 21 years as an AIMS committee member, as well as an instructor at many AIMS International Safety Seminars. He currently volunteers as a committee member and faculty member for the AIMS Academy of Amusement Risk Management, Safety & Security and is a member of IAAPA, ASTM Committee F24, ASIS and **WWA**.

The new board members have taken office as of April 1.

AIMS thanks all its board members for their dedication to assisting in its mission to improve safety in the amusement industry through leadership in education.

Space for this AIMS page is provided courtesy of *Amusement Today* as a corporate partner of AIMS Intl. Content is provided by AT & AIMS.



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# Reithoffer Shows refurbishing its fleet for 2022 season and beyond

AT: Pam Sherborne  
psherborne@amusementtoday.com

GIBSONTON, Fla. — With very little downtime during the winter months, those working on **Reithoffer Shows** have little time to do the number of repairs and refurbishments undertaken during the off season.

It has been even busier than normal at the show's Gibsonton workshop this year.

Sharon Popovich, who travels with Reithoffer's Blue Unit along with her husband, Tom Popovich, who is the show's shop foreman, were still in Gibsonton in mid-April finishing up projects even though both units, the Blue and Orange, were on the road.

"In 2020, when things were shut down, we started refurbishing our rides and completed projects on many of our rides," Popovich said. "Rick (Reithoffer) said, 'Let's just keep going.'"

The show normally does

► See **SHOWS**, page 62



Reithoffer Shows has been very busy the last couple of years repainting, repairing and refurbishing its ride fleet. One of the show's projects for 2022 was creating new panels for the Grand Carousel, manufactured by Chance. The top wooden panels were replaced with fiberglass panels. COURTESY REITHOFFER SHOWS



Ride Your Dragon was rebranded by Reithoffer shows and has now become the Orient Express (above left). The show also rebranded its Hero Zone, by Wisdom, retheming it for 2022 to the Spiderman Ride (above right). COURTESY REITHOFFER SHOWS



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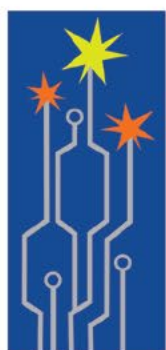






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Reithoffer Shows purchased a brand new Wave Swinger from Bertazzon. They received the ride the first week of April.  
COURTESY REITHOFFER SHOWS

## ► SHOWS Continued from page 60

repairs, maintenance and refurbishments ongoing, but the number and depth of the projects finished in 2020 just raised the bar a little for last year and this year.

The show's Grand Carousel, manufactured by **Chance Rides**, got all new scenery panels. Instead of wood, they are made from fiberglass that will extend the life of the panels. Popovich said the scenery is the same, just repainted onto the fiberglass. The carousel also got brand new LED lights.

The show's Zipper, also made by Chance, received the first part of its rehab last year.

"We did everything we could do at the shop to this ride last year," Popovich said. "This year, we sent it out to a

shop to complete it. It has been completely redone."

Pharaoh's Fury (Chance), has been painted and received needed repairs.

A **Larson International** Fireball was sent to Larson's plant to be repainted and have repairs performed.

The show's Hero Zone, (**Wisdom**), was rethemed to The Spiderman Ride.

"It is done," Popovich said. "We just pulled it off the lot last week to get it on the road."

Also rebranded for 2022, the Ride Your Dragon (Wisdom) was repainted and wrapped in new vinyl, becoming The Orient Express.

Reithoffer has two Wacky Worm rides, one on each unit. Both have been repainted with the Orange Unit's ride the most recently redone. The Wacky Worm is

manufactured by **Fajume**.

In process to be refurbished are the show's **Sellner** Dizzy Dragon and the Starship 3000, by Wisdom.

Popovich and her husband will take to the road for the season once all projects are complete.

"During this time of year when we are out for some of our smaller spring spots, we will have some of the men that work on the show's larger roller coasters be here at the shop to work on these projects," she said. "We usually don't take our bigger coasters out on the road during the spring events."

Brand new on the Reithoffer Blue Unit midway this year is a **Bertazzon** Wave Swinger.

"We can't understand why we haven't gotten one before now," commented Popovich.

[reithoffershows.com](http://reithoffershows.com)

# CELEBRATING THE 2022 AMUSEMENT SEASON



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# Investigation of young boy's death on Orlando Freefall is ongoing

ORLANDO, Fla. — A forensic engineering firm commissioned by the **Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS)** to aid in the investigation of what caused a 14-year-old to slip from his seat to his death on the Freefall ride at **Icon Park** in Orlando, Florida is now complete.

The report, which was released on April 18, stated: "The cause of the subject accident was that **Tyre Sampson** was not properly secured in the seat primarily due to mis-adjustment of the harness proximity sensors."

"This report answers the question of what mechanically took place as our investigation now enters its next phase of how and why it occurred as we look towards potential penalties along with any potential changes of rules and regulations needed," said **Nikki Fried**, commissioner, FDACS.

The release of the report from **Quest Engineering and Failure Analysis, Inc.** marks the initial phase of the investigation into the teen's death.

The Orlando FreeFall drop tower is owned and operated at the Icon Park by **Slingshot Group**. The ride, which was manufactured by **Funtime**, takes riders up nearly 400 feet. At the top, it tilts 30 degrees forward before dropping at speeds of up to 75 miles per hour. The ride has a seating capacity of 30.

Sampson, of St. Louis, Missouri, was riding the Freefall when he slipped from his seat as the ride descended. It was about 50 feet from the ground. Sampson died at the Orlando Arnold Palmer Hospital from injuries sustained in that fall.

His death is being investigated by the **FDACS** along with the **Orange County Sheriff's Office** and **Icon Park**.

Quest Engineering and Failure Analysis, Inc., found that the average opening for restraints on the seats was 3.3 inches. However, the opening of the restraint for the seat used by Tyre Samp-

son, upon inspection, was as much as 7.1 inches. One other seat also had been adjusted to as much as 6.5 inches. The restraint opening on Sampson's seat could have expanded to as wide as 10 inches from the extra weight, the report said.

The inspection also showed that sensors used to activate safety lights on

the two seats, indicating the harness safety restraints were in place, had been adjusted to allow for the wider openings. The safety lights on Sampson's seat and on the ride's control panel were illuminated. If they hadn't been, the ride would not have started.

The safety harness was still locked into its position at

the end of the ride, according to the initial accident report.

According to Sampson's father, Sampson weighed about 340 pounds.

"As noted in the report, there are many other potential contributing factors that may have played a role in this incident and that is what our Department is continuing to investigate," Fried

said. "Given these outstanding concerns, the Drop Tower will remain closed indefinitely ... We are far from done uncovering all of the facts and factors at play that are needed to inform next steps."

The Orlando Freefall opened in December. The ride has remain closed since the accident.

—Pam Sherborne

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# Safety-related vendors exhibit products, innovations during Gibtown

The four-day, 54th annual **International Independent Showmen's Foundation (IISF)** annual Super Trade Show & Extravaganza was held in February in Gibsonton, Florida. Of the 94 vendors in attendance, there were numerous suppliers with safety-related wares. Here is but a small sampling of what they had to offer.



**Showmen's Supply Inc.** offers specialty lighting and electrical equipment for the entertainment and amusement industry. Sister company **Semcor Manufacturing** is a custom fabricator that builds portable power generators and electrical distribution equipment. With the recent acquisition of **Owen Trailers, Inc.**, Semcor has expanded into manufacturing fun houses, mirror mazes and dark rides. Seen are on l: Scott Siefker, president and Jason Skurow, general sales manager. AT/B. DEREK SHAW



**Audio Innovators** provides safety announcement systems that are used all across the industry, which includes audio message repeaters. Applications include ride safety instruction, waterslide safety, storm warning safety messages, timed and on-demand messaging. The company includes a wide assortment of two-way radios that are now being used on the new broadcast band, UHF digital. This allows users to easily communicate end-to-end on fairgrounds or an amusement park. Zach (left) and Dale Hershberger test out the two-way radios. AT/B. DEREK SHAW



**Worldwide Safety Group Inc.** provides third party inspections for insurance companies, carnivals, FEC's, amusement parks and other companies in the industry. Risk assessment and loss control surveys, consulting services along with operator training and non-destructive testing (NDT) are just a few of the areas they cover, positioning themselves as a "one stop shop." Shown (l to r): Avery D. Wheelock, owner of Wheelock Rides and Avery L. Wheelock, president of Worldwide Safety Group. AT/B. DEREK SHAW

## Starting & Loading

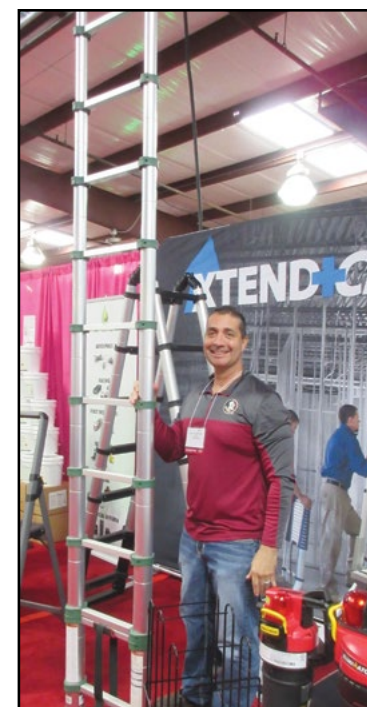
conveyors for water rides

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**Acme Solutions Group** focuses on new and innovative products that have recently emerged on the market that are a safer alternative for the amusement industry. Items presented at the show included a self-extinguishing fire extinguisher, telescoping ladders from 30 inches closed to 19½ feet extended, and Greensorb, a reusable oil granular. The product cleans up oil, gasoline, bodily fluids (vomit, blood, urine) and more. Shown is Dave Sweeney, director of business development.. AT/B. DEREK SHAW





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# SOLD CLASSIFIEDS

## FOR SALE

- Visa Floor Pickup Mini-Scooter (6 cars)...\$49,000
- 25-meter Moser Tower (never used)...\$349,000
  - Chance Zipper (T/M)...\$199,000
- ARM Happy Viking Himalaya....\$79,000
  - Chance Double Decker.....\$299,000
  - Moser 8.6m Spring Ride.....\$69,000
  - Bertazzon Matterhorn (T/M)....\$299,000
  - Zierer Wave Swinger (T/M)....\$249,000
  - ARM Rock Star (T/M).....\$399,000
  - KMG Freak Out (T/M).....\$399,000
    - Wacky Worm.....\$99,000
  - Super Shot....\$349,000

Call Len or Earl  
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www.Rides4U.com

## OPPORTUNITY

Chance Rides Manufacturing is currently seeking a Field Service Technician to install, troubleshoot and maintain Chance Rides' extensive product line of amusement rides, coasters, carousels, trains, wheels, and people movers. Position is based in Wichita, KS. Competitive salary (commensurate with experience) and full benefits.



### Duties:

- Utilize mechanical and electrical knowledge to comprehend the facets of design, manufacturing, assembly, installation and troubleshooting of products.
- Travel as needed to customer locations (domestic and international) to install or troubleshoot with high regard to timely customer service and quality.
  - Oversee installation projects onsite by delegating, communicating, training, organizing, and facilitating effectively.
  - Self-direction and self-motivation is key for successful job performance and job duties.

### Expectations:

- Represent Chance Rides with a positive and professional manner at all times.
- Team player with co-workers and customers in creating and implementing successful installations and solutions while troubleshooting.
- Communicate clearly and effectively both internally and externally
  - Utilize experience and a wide degree of independent judgment & decision making to plan and accomplish goals.
  - Work to improve systems, practices, expenses in regard to customer and field service.

### Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in an engineering or technical field preferred.
- Minimum 3 years of experience in the amusement industry
- Mechanical, electrical, hydraulic, pneumatic, and controls knowledge overseeing assembly and/or installation of quality specialized products preferred
- Ability to travel 60-70% of the year, potentially more, and for extended periods.
- Sound organizational skills, proven ability to delegate tasks, and experience with customer relations a must.
- Strong computer and mobile device skills a must.
  - Valid driver's license and good driving record; valid passport (or ability to obtain one).
  - Familiar with ASTM safety standards a plus.

For consideration,  
please send resume to [Eric.Stoecklein@chancerides.com](mailto:Eric.Stoecklein@chancerides.com)

## OPPORTUNITY



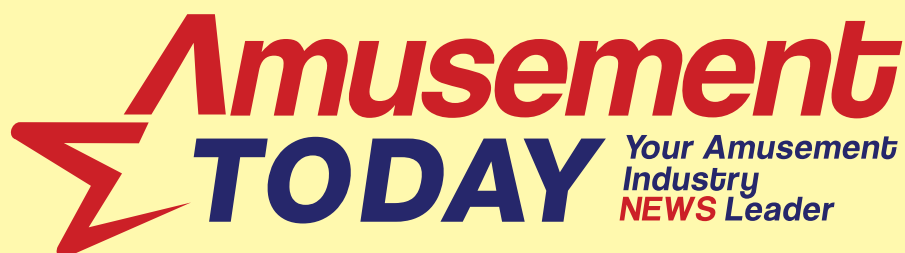
## Palace Playland

1 Old Orchard Street  
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207-934-2001 ext 114  
Email: [joel\\_golder@yahoo.com](mailto:joel_golder@yahoo.com)

**Rare opportunity Food Space available  
Various options.  
High Traffic Beachfront Amusement Park.  
Memorial Day thru Labor Day  
Qualified Operators/Quality equipment considered.**

## OPPORTUNITY

## WANTED: Advertising Salesperson



Industry newspaper *Amusement Today* is seeking an individual to join our ad sales staff. This is the perfect position for networking and being part of the Amusement Industry! Candidate will work from home and receive 20% commission on all ad sales.

### Duties:

- Contact potential new advertisers within the Amusement Industry
- Build relationships with above contacts
- Sell electronic and print advertising for *Amusement Today*
- Represent *Amusement Today* in a positive and professional manner at all times

### Requirements:

- Familiarity with MS Word and MS Excel
- Familiarity with the Amusement Industry
  - Willingness to be easily contacted via phone/email throughout workday

For consideration,  
please send resume and contact information to  
Publisher Gary Slade: [gslade@amusementtoday.com](mailto:gslade@amusementtoday.com)







# Masters in the art of insuring amusement & entertainment risks

## ABOUT US

McGowan Allied Specialty Insurance brings together an unmatched team of risk management professionals with over 35 years of expertise. We continue, as we have since 1983, to be solely dedicated to the Amusement and Entertainment Industries.

The strength of our new partnership delivers in-depth knowledge of the industry and advanced technology that brings to you a solid partner for your business needs.

We craft solutions for a wide range of coverages that other companies simply do not know how to write. We ensure that you are not stuck with cut-rate programs.



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Scan for more information!





# DISK'O COASTER



Antonio Zamperla SpA  
Vicenza - Italy | ph +39 0444 998 400  
zamperla@zamperla.it

- **The seating is unlike anything in the industry:** with its motorcycle-like seat pedestal and the unique back restraint it leaves both arms and legs free to move allowing for an even wilder experience!
- Thanks to the circular seating arrangement each rider enjoys the **front row experience** without the need to queue for it.
- **Perfect combination** of a roller coaster and a spinning ride.
- **7 different sizes** available that satisfies the needs of all our customers, from small indoor FECs to the biggest outdoor parks.
- With a minimum rider height of 120 cm (48") this is a family/thrill ride able to **attract a wide range of riders**: from fearless teenagers to the families of thrillseekers.
- During its 15-year history more than **200 Disk'Os** have been installed all over the world.

Discover more on [zamperla.com](http://zamperla.com) and follow us on

